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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2014

Homes & Gardens Pages 16-18

Cowbridge remembers the Great War Page 5

Christmas Party Guide Page 22

The Darren Farm housing plan moves into the fast lane

by PHILIP IRWIN

PLANS to build homes at Darren Farm, just outside Cowbridge, have been accelerated in a surprise move that could see 90 houses built by the end of 2016 – with 300 more to come over the following 10 years.

The plans were revealed at a 'stakeholder meeting' which took place last week in Cowbridge. A public meeting covering the same issue is planned for some time in October.

The plan appears to hinge on the fact that the Vale Council's Local Development Plan (LDP) will not be agreed in time. This means that council planners will have to make a decision based on existing planning guidance.

The stakeholder meeting invited representatives of local schools, churches, town and community councils, the chamber of trade and the Vale Market Action Group, together with a number of local groups.

Representing the Cowbridge and Llanblethian Residents' Group was Dr Chris Pearce, who told The GEM that the stakeholders had received two glossy brochures detailing how the application was hoped to progress.

He said that now the stakeholders have met and made their comments, the next stage will be a public consultation event in October – at a date yet to be confirmed.

The developers, Commercial Estates Group, will then spend the rest of the autumn on 'masterplanning work', feedback and further meetings.

A planning submission will then go to the Vale Council in "winter".

That would mean the scheme could come before the Vale Council planning committee in mid-2015, with the aim of having 90 homes built by 2016. The Darren Farm plan would then allow for another 150 homes to be built by 2021, followed by another 150 by 2026.

A link road, which will cost £3 million, from the Llantwit Major Road to the A48 would also be built, as well as a new primary school.

Dr Chris Pearce said: "This is an attempt by the developer to circumvent the LDP (and all the work that has gone into it) and to apply for planning permission prematurely, before the LDP is adopted, thus avoiding an independent examination by a planning inspector."

Dr Pearce argued that when the plan comes before the Vale Council planning committee, he felt it was likely that it would be supported by Vale Council officers. He also felt it was unlikely that committee members from the eastern Vale would vote against a development in the rural Vale.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

Cowbridge man is the new boss of Dogs Trust charity

A FORMER Cowbridge Comprehensive schoolboy has risen to become head man at one of the UK's largest charities.

Adrian Burder, who is the deputy chief executive and marketing director of Dogs Trust, has just been made its Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

He succeeds Clarissa Baldwin, who will be retiring as CEO of the charity. Adrian will take on his new role from the end of October.

A Dogs Trust spokeswoman said: "Adrian has played an instrumental role at Dogs Trust for the past 20 years and was the unanimous choice for the position.

"Since joining in 1994, Adrian has played a central part in increasing the charity's annual income from just over £3 million to over £75 million a year and successfully manages brand recognition, including the charity's name change from the National Canine Defence League".

Born in Port Talbot, Adrian has lived in both Colwinston and Sigingstone. His parents still live in the Vale and he still considers it a home from home.

Adrian Burder.

He said: "It's a great honour for me to be taking on the role of CEO at Dogs Trust, the UK's largest dog welfare charity.

"Dogs Trust is a wonderful charity, helping around 17,000 stray and abandoned dogs every year through our network of 20 rehoming centres.

"And, being Welsh, I'm particularly proud of all the work we undertake in Wales – whether it be rehoming work at our Bridgend Centre, or the fabulous neutering, microchipping and educational campaigns that we run throughout the country."

His sister, Louise Lewis, told The GEM: "After Cowbridge school he studied history at Warwick University and moved into the charity sector with a stint at BUAV, before joining Dogs Trust.

"Although now living in St Alban's, he still has strong links to Cowbridge. His mother lives in the town and a lot of the family live close, so he visits regularly, and his eldest son now studies at Swansea University".

WHAT A 'GEM' OF AN IDEA!

LLYSWORNEY Garage will be closing on September 19 until October 20, while proprietor Chris Ball is away on holiday.

The villagers of Llysworney currently collect their weekly copies of The GEM from the garage during office hours.

As this will not be possible during the period that the garage is closed, Chris has come up with the perfect solution... He has assembled and fitted a GEM box!

This has been mounted on the wall in the covered porch of the garage. So now, while Chris is away, the local community will be still be able to access their copies of The GEM from the Llysworney Garage GEM box!

Samantha B
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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Don John, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (*in certain circumstances*) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

'NHS on a path to privatisation'

I WAS not surprised to read the Conservatives' attack on our Welsh NHS in The GEM last week, but the truth is far more sinister.

Since the last election, they have deliberately embarked on a path of privatising the NHS in England.

Pathology, ambulance services, out of hours GP services, and even surgery, have all been offered up to profiteers.

This despite the fact that the privatisation has been a disaster – many contracts show a complete failure by private providers.

Our NHS may not be perfect, but it is accountable – private companies are only accountable to their shareholders and to profit.

Everyone reading this should be thankful that health is devolved.

Robert Morgan, Barry Island.

'Hospital a jewel in Welsh NHS crown'

MAY I, through your paper, and on behalf of my family, thank all the doctors and staff of Ward 19, Princess of Wales, Bridgend for the wonderful care, patience and understanding they gave my late sister.

The bad press the hospital has been subjected to recently, will always overshadow the immense amount of hard work and loving care given by the vast majority of the staff.

As a family we are truly in awe of the kindness my sister was shown and so very grateful for the gentle, caring way they responded to our Mum, who is nearly 90, when she rang daily over a period of 12 weeks.

We should all be humbly proud of our NHS and the Princess of Wales is a true jewel in its crown.

Penny Jenkins, Pontypridd.

'Excellent care by Welsh NHS'

I WRITE in support of the letter in The GEM, on September 4 by Mr G Smith, and would like to urge your readers' vigilance against Tory attacks on our Welsh NHS, both from MP Alun Cairns and the party's Assembly members.

While they and their supporters have the right to express their views, they must not be allowed to go unchallenged by actual experiences of their constituents.

The regular attacks on ambulance response times in Wales do not correlate with my experience.

I have a friend with a chronic health problem that takes him off to hospital almost every month, and the ambulance response times, as well as the care from the paramedics, has been exemplary.

Not only that, I too have had reason to call a Welsh ambulance following injuries, (through my own negligence, I confess) and the response times were totally acceptable.

Furthermore, both my friend and I will vouch for the excellent care the Welsh NHS offers, once the ambulance personnel hand over to the hospital.

Unless we resist the hidden agenda to drip-feed us into accepting privatisation of our NHS, we will lose one of the finest achievements that Britain has ever secured.

England is already on its way to that sad state, unless a future Westminster Government slams on the brakes.

Marc Delaney, Barry.

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Darren Farm: Llandow site is better option than Cowbridge'

I AM about to return from a visit to our old family home in Cowbridge and am horrified to learn once again of the return and increased scale of the proposed housing development up the Llantwit Road from Darren Farm.

I understand this is Grade One agricultural land. Where I live now in Devon, we treasure land which enables us to grow crops and helps to avoid increasing our already huge food imports.

Yesterday, Cowbridge was at a traffic standstill. I was unable to find a parking spot to visit the bank and the chemist. I hear that resident children have been refused places at the local school. Surely this situation speaks for itself?

No-one can tell me why a part of Llandow, which appears to be such a desolate brownfield site, cannot be planned with some imagination and skill, providing attractive homes (in what could be in just as pleasant a setting as Cowbridge itself, with its own accessible amenities), for those who do not require, or cannot afford, the executive houses that will no doubt be the most lucrative for the proposed developer at Darren Farm.

This would generally advantage and humanise the industrial estate. Surely, many people would like to see it become a successful village, perhaps even similar to the Poundbury development in Dorset, rather than overload services in Cowbridge (which the local authority has already planned to cut).

The Darren Farm development, I remember well, has already – at vast ratepayer's expense – been judged legally and morally inappropriate for an area of "outstanding natural beauty".

The purpose of this letter is to stress that we must never forget the aesthetic importance of our picturesque countryside, which attracts visitors whom the Government recognise support the local economy. Once lost, it can never be regained.

Go and watch the beautiful sunset over this land. Nature nurtures the soul and without it, we will all be so much the poorer.

Delyth Parry, Yelverton, Devon.

'NHS needs to hugely improve'

I REFER to Mr G Smith's letter last week regarding the NHS in Wales; not only does the service need to improve, but it needs to hugely improve.

My partner was recently diagnosed as needing a knee replacement and was quoted a waiting time of between 52-60 weeks by the Neath Port Talbot Hospital.

Both myself and my partner are patients of the eye clinic in the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, where the follow-up appointments are at least 12 months behind.

The people of Wales are being badly let down by the Assembly.

M T Hopkins, Cowbridge.

Nato summit: 'Wales did itself proud'

AS the fences came down, police officers headed home, and as the last remaining dignitaries have left, Wales can congratulate itself on its excellent hosting of another historic event.

The Nato summit saw global eyes turn to Wales as dozens of world leaders headed into Newport and Cardiff.

Issues of critical importance were discussed and Wales was showcased perfectly. Hosting so many leaders at one time, was a rare event that will live long in the memory and I hope the legacy of this summit is now properly utilised.

It was a great honour to watch Friday morning's fly-past, along with hundreds of others in Cardiff who had gathered around the Bay to enjoy that incredible spectacle.

Indeed, the police and military operation that has facilitated this event has been on an unprecedented scale.

I want to add my own personal thanks to the many thousands of police men and women – many from outside of Wales – for their impressive work in helping to make this summit run smoothly.

I've seen first-hand their welcoming approach and their desire to talk to local people, assist and support.

Wales did itself proud hosting the largest summit ever to be held in Britain.

Tthis couldn't have happened if it wasn't for the tireless work of police officers, all those working hard within local authorities, each and every soldier involved, and the scores of medical staff on standby. Your work in making this happen was invaluable.

Andrew RT Davies AM
Leader of the Welsh Conservatives

Mice more important than human beings?

I WRITE in reply to Isobel Hutchinson's letter (The GEM, September 4), urging people not to take the Ice Bucket Challenge in aid of Motor Neurone Disease research, because they test on mice.

How utterly disgusting that she should make this ridiculous statement when there are men, women and children suffering every day with this terrible disease.

I am confounded at the narrow mindedness of Animal Aid, who think that mice are more important than people.

The people who do the Ice Bucket Challenge nominate friends and they all contribute, by text, to this very worthy cause – thus providing much-needed funds to continue the research.

I shall never again, give a penny to animal charities if this is the damaging and crass mentality they maintain. Ms Hutchinson, you should be ashamed.

Sarah Morris, Bridgend.

POO BAGS

WHY don't the people who complain about receiving only five poo bags for their dogs go to the 99 store in Holton Road, Barry and get 200 bags for 99 pence? I am an OAP and buy these for my dog.

Mrs AE Thomas, Barry.

Summit for nothing!

SO Barry became a police state for a couple of days – but hey, frigates in the ocean, fly pasts, hosting world signatories, including Big O and his 1,000-plus entourage – was all very exciting – so admit it.

Not too impressed, though, with the Tesco Extra security which meant I had to fight a cavalcade of cops on bikes, cars and vans who took over the car park, some with guns – for the meal deal.

Like me, they all went for the yellow stickers. I got my 'deal' though, as now I'm the proud owner of a blue beanie cap. Ha!

Karen Gallimore, Barry.

Where is the Memo organ?

I HAVE just returned from a few days spent in Wales. I had a trip to Barry and as I belong to an organ society, I was very interested to see the organ in your Memorial Hall, Barry.

I could not believe it was no longer there and had been collected five years ago by a company called ATOS and nobody could tell me where it is now.

I just cannot believe anyone authorising the removal of this organ, with so much history and many professional organists in concert there, over the years.

From a devastated visitor,

Mrs B Dunn, Sidmouth, Devon.

Shock, horror... THE CARPENTER WAS A GIRL!

HOW times have changed. It is with interest and a little envy that I read the recent articles regarding the young ladies pursuing a career in the building trades, with the help of Jehu.

It was a very different story 30 years ago when I secured a place on a theatre carpentry course at London & Hammersmith College of Builders (much to my parents' horror).

I was the only female at the college, and was constantly harangued by students in other disciplines. It became a running joke that my lovely classmates were considered to be my bodyguards.

When it came time to do two weeks' work experience, I was assigned the Criterion Theatre in Piccadilly Circus. Upon my arrival, I was greeted by the manager who said: "That was naughty, they didn't say they were sending a girl."

During those two weeks, the only job I was given to do was to re-paint the fire bucket red.

Upon completion of the year-long course (which I passed with distinction) I began applying for carpentry jobs in local theatres, then further afield as each application was inexplicably rejected. Finally I left out the title 'Miss' and was able to secure some interviews.

The shock on the faces of the interviewers was something to see and in the end, one of them quite kindly (under the circumstances) told me: "Look, no-one is going to hire a girl to do carpentry. You'd be better off going for a position in wardrobe."

That put paid to my dream of becoming a carpenter.

So, at the risk of sounding like an old fogey, girls today don't know they're born!

There are college carpentry courses where a reasonable percentage are female and now building companies are encouraging them in that direction too.

I wish them all the very best. I hope they make the most of their opportunities and secretly wish I hadn't been born three decades too early.

Janet Hayles, Barry.

See more readers' letters on page 10

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL SEPTEMBER 11)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
04 Thur	01.24	7.9	14.14	7.8
05 Fri	03.04	7.9	15.51	8.2
06 Sat	04.25	8.4	16.58	9.0
07 Sun	05.29	9.1	17.53	9.7
08 Mon	06.21	9.8	18.46	10.3
09 Tues	07.11	10.2	19.31	10.7
10 Wed	07.54	10.8	20.15	10.9
11 Thur	08.39	10.7	20.59	10.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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WAR COMES TO TOWN HALL!

Turn to page 5 to see more of GLYN EVANS' pictures from the First World War Day in Cowbridge Town Hall.

Darren Farm project begins to take shape

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Dr Pearce added: "There are a number of applications that are seeking to get through before the LDP is finished. Ystradowen and Colwinston, as well as Primrose Hill in Cowbridge are facing similar schemes."

The developers argue in their brochures that Cowbridge has been identified as a "key service centre" and is one of a number of "sustainable settlements" which could accommodate "additional housing and associated development".

They also point to a Welsh Government6 objection to the March 2012 deposit LDP, which questioned the "low housing provision made in Cowbridge, relative to smaller settlements".

They add that the official estimate of new homes needed in the Vale is almost 10,000 between 2011 and 2026, and that the district's most acute affordable housing need is in the rural Vale.

Jon Allen from Commercial Estates Group (CEG) said: "We like to work with the local community to evolve masterplans which respect and enhance the character of an area; Cowbridge is unique so this is all the more important.

"Following our meetings, we will hold a public consultation event to ensure that those who want to contribute to making this the best place possible, have the opportunity to do so.

"This development will plan for the future of Cowbridge; it will sustainably deliver homes near to facilities and by concentrating development in one strategic area, it will have the ability to invest in infrastructure, such as new roads, highway improvements, public transport, education and healthcare provision."

He said that CEG is now taking into account the comments raised in the meetings to date, such as sewage system upgrades, protection and enhancement of the setting of St Brynach church, and ensuring the design complements the character of Cowbridge.

The rural housing issue is concerning people in villages as well. One group that plans to oppose building close to existing villages is "Vale Villages Together".

Spokesman Andrew Loyns told The GEM: "The Vale Council proposes to build 940 houses on sites targeted in a number of Vale villages in its LDP.

"In addition, it is also proposing further development of another 722 new houses across the rural Vale, the so-called 'windfall' allocation.

FORUM

"The Vale Villages Together network has been established to mobilise opposition to these proposals. Our goal is not to prevent housing development in the rural Vale: clearly additional housing is needed, especially affordable housing.

"What we are opposed to is the disproportionate scale of housing.

"An open meeting has been arranged and we invite representatives from community councils, residents' groups and relevant organisations to participate in a forum on the future of housing in the rural Vale.

"The forum will be held in the community hall in Ystradowen, 2.30pm on Sunday, September 21.

The Cowbridge and Llanblethian Residents' Group can be contacted by email at chris@cpearces.plus.com

'Planning decisions make no sense'

– SAYS A GEM READER

TWO items on the front page of The GEM on August 21 reinforced my conviction that the lunatics are running the asylum.

The first concerns the solar farm at Treguff, which has been turned down twice by the elected representatives of the residents, but has now been allowed by an unelected individual, an inspector.

Firstly, on the character and appearance of the countryside, he feels that the obstruction of "most views" from the north and east and disregarding the entire south and west aspect is acceptable.

The existence of power lines and pylons, the old railway buildings (invisible to most) and the distant stacks at Aberthaw, all of which have been there for many years, does not mean that the addition of a large solar installation is in keeping.

Secondly, on the issue of heritage, the area has been designated one of special interest by the government and should be conserved.

The site is highly visible from Flemingston and the change in the outlook caused by the site will have an adverse effect on the area.

On the third issue, I am not sure how he can argue that the development will not be detrimental to the local residents or affect their quality of life.

Those who live in Kingsland, for example, will have their outlook blighted by looking at the underside of rows of solar panels. Those who live in Flemingston will have some degree of reflection from the panels, plus of course the nuisance of the 24 hour lighting.

All of the land occupied by the panels will be lost to farming as grass will not grow where the light is not allowed to reach it.

What is the economic case for the installation when operators of wind farms are being paid for not generating electricity due to overloads on the grid?

I need scarcely remind readers that all of the money for the subsidies given to solar farm and wind farm operators is paid for by us on our energy bills.

My second issue is with the Primrose Hill proposal.

This has already been rejected by the Vale Council, as it is not in the LDP or the UDP and Welsh Water has indicated that there will be no further capacity for water supply or sewage treatment in the Cowbridge area for many years.

Why are we having an inquiry now (at our expense) when there is no prospect of this development proceeding for a number of years?

With an increasing world population, access to food imports will fall as countries decide to feed their own people and I believe that we will need all of the farmers and farmland we can get within a very few years.

Alec Trousdell,
Llanblethian.

Ystradowen has 'crafternoon' to help Philippines

RECENTLY, The GEM publicised the fundraising efforts of Hilary Carney of Cowbridge, who is trying to help rebuild the lives of people in a small island in the Philippines.

GEM readers may remember that earlier this year, we told the story of how the Carney family, who were in the Philippines for a family wedding, found themselves the only foreign 'tourists' on the island of Bantayan – which had been devastated by a typhoon.

Hilary Carney told The GEM that she was determined to raise funds to help with the rebuilding of Bantayan and she has done so all this year – with the next event taking place on September 14.

This will be a 'Crafternoon Tea' in Ystradowen Village Hall, from 1:30pm to 4:30pm with crafting activities and an afternoon tea, at a cost of £15 per person.

Supporters can opt for just the afternoon tea, at a cost of £7.50.

All proceeds will be donated to the islanders of Bantayan.

Role of women in wartime recalled

Ystradowen and district WI president, Jan Foyle, chaired the business for the month and thanked Chris Kelly for organising the trip to Cheltenham in August, when 16 members set out on a lovely summer's morning.

The monthly coffee morning will take place on September 24 and the monthly walk on September 17.

The September meeting was entitled 'Keeping the Home Fires Burning: WOMEN the backbone of Britain's Wars'.

Members set the scene by attending in suitable dress, from World War One nurses to Land Army girls, munitions workers, and the World War Two housewife complete with apron and turban.

We all played a part reading quotes from real people from both wars. We began with World War One nurse Edith Cavell and heard of the amazing courage and dedication of these extraordinary women who cared for the soldiers and tended to their horrific injuries.

While the men were away fighting it left a great need at home and women played their part. We sang familiar songs from World War Two accompanied on the piano by our pianist Rose Ives and Shena Sarjeant then demonstrated wartime recipes for raisin cake and potato scones.

She also showed a week's allocation of food for an adult.

There were more readings from women who had played an important role in the war effort.

Sheila Garnham recalled childhood memories of the war. She was too young to appreciate the danger everyone lived through and had quite enjoyed going to the shelter in her garden.

WI ladies, of course, played their part by growing, bottling and canning food to sustain our troops and feed families on the home front.

After the war came to an end, the roles of women in society changed for ever.

It took time, but women were no longer content to be inferior to their men and strove for the equality we enjoy today.

Our next meeting will be in the village hall on October 1. Our speaker will be Jane Masters, whose talk is entitled 'Don't Put Your Daughter on the Stage". New members and visitors welcome. **EL**

COMMUNITY NEWS

Your local correspondent is
NANCY DAVIDGE
"Tynewydd", Llangan.
(01656) 860303
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Harvest festival

ST MARY HILL Church will celebrate harvest with a service on Sunday, September 21 at 6.30pm conducted by Bishop David Yeoman.

Following the service, make your way to the Llangan-St Mary Hill village hall, where supper will be served.

For tickets to the supper, telephone 860881. Everyone welcome.

Club resumes

YOUNG At Heart Club meetings resumed last week when a warm welcome greeted Mrs Sylvia Mordicai, who had spent some time in the Princess of Wales Hospital during the summer break.

Everyone was pleased to see her back.

Our thoughts are with Norma Newman who has been readmitted to Princess of Wales Hospital, following a relapse at her home. Mr Tom Harry has decided to join his wife, Gloria, who is already an established member of the YAH Club.

Celebrations

THE response to Treoes harvest festival was truly amazing: the community hall became a gardener's delight, with vegetables of every description.

The local ladies demonstrated their expertise with lovely cakes and super sponges. Following the judges' verdict, the produce was sold.

The proceeds will benefit the village hall, Saron Chapel and the allotments. The Saron Chapel vestry was open for those in need of a nice cuppa with a variety of home made cakes!

The service which followed in Saron was very well attended by both locals and visitors.

'Commemoration was a success'

We are most grateful to The GEM for the articles about the 'Keep the Home Fires Burning' commemoration last weekend.

As a result of the publicity, over 350 people visited us and realised the conditions endured at home.

On Saturday, the Western Front Association exhibition enhanced the experience with the military aspect of the war.

Pamela Robson, display organiser, on behalf of Cowbridge Museum Trust.

Cowbridge needs a Post Office, *and soon!*

MRS C Schrader's letter in The GEM of September 4 has fittingly highlighted the present totally unacceptable position of a town the size of Cowbridge being without a Post Office for months on end.

And still there is no outward sign of anything happening or about to happen to relieve this impossible situation.

I would urge our MP, Alun Cairns, who played a vital role in helping to resolve the equally adverse situation of bus transport provision in parts of the Vale, which went on for almost a year, to take up this new blight on the life of many in Cowbridge with Post Office officials, or whoever is directly responsible.

People do still post letters, buy stamps, pay bills, post parcels and a host of other things through the Post Office.

Cowbridge needs a Post Office again – AND SOON!

CE John,
Corntown.

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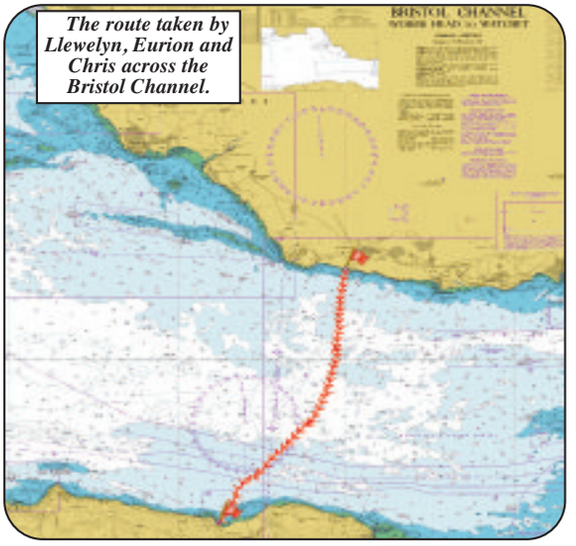
LOCAL TEENAGER IN RECORD BRISTOL CHANNEL CROSSING



The route taken by Llewelyn, Eurion and Chris across the Bristol Channel.

Llewelyn and Eurion at Llantwit Major beach prior to the crossing.

Llewelyn approaching the north Somerset coast.

by GEM REPORTER

A Vale schoolboy has become the youngest kayaker to cross the Bristol Channel.

Llewelyn Brown (14) from Wick kayaked across the Bristol Channel on September 2 raising sponsorship funds for a World Challenge expedition to India.

The 23 km journey from Llantwit Major beach to Porlock Wier in Somerset took Llewelyn just 3 hours and 48 minutes, no mean feat as the Bristol Channel has the second highest tidal range in the world and formidable currents to navigate.

Paddling alongside Llewelyn were his father Eurion and a friend, Chris Evans from Broughton.

Llewelyn told The GEM "It was a great feeling having made it to the other side.

"It was a personal goal I've been working towards since June and the type of challenge I expect to be faced with on the World Challenge expedition.

"I hope through people sponsoring me I will raise a good part of the funds needed for the expedition to India"

Llewelyn is one of seven students at Llantwit Major School who have signed up for the World Challenge which consists of spending two weeks in Uttarakhand in northern India.

The project involves working alongside a local community, or on a conservation scheme, and usually takes the form of maintenance work in schools, painting murals, fixing buildings or general odd jobs. There will be opportunities to mix with local villagers and their children.

The students will live with the local people, becoming part of their daily life and traditions, which offers a wonderful cultural experience.

There is also the physical and mental challenge of a trek through the foothills of the Himalayas, an environment different to anything else they have ever experienced.

In order to raise the funds the students are doing a variety of activities both individually and as a group.

They have already 'bag-packed' at the Co-op; helped out at St Illtud's Church; run stalls at various fairs and events; done gardening; collected and recycled metal and clothes; and sold items at car boot sales.

By being part of this World Challenge the students will have the opportunity of working closely with each other, planning and raising funds and developing skills that will help them later in life.

Llewelyn was following in his father's long distance 'paddle strokes'. Last year, Eurion successfully crossed the Irish Sea, kayaking the 90km from Rosslaire to Whitesands in west Wales in aid of Ty Hafan Children's Hospice.

This year he paddled a 140km return trip out into the north Atlantic to the remote archipelago of St Kilda from North Uist in Scotland.

Anyone wishing to sponsor Llewelyn's kayaking adventure can do so by visiting www.goo.gl/eEiG0x.

Journey's end – at Porlock Weir.

'Karen' coffee morning highlights the plight of a forgotten people

by TIM CHAPMAN

A coffee morning held in Llantwit Major highlighting the desperate situation of the 'Karen' people of Burma was a big success.

It took place on Wednesday, September 3, at Tabernacle Church and was organised by a local couple, Joe and Gwen Claase.

Joe told The GEM: "It was a magnificent morning – we raised nearly £600."

Joe's daughter Sonya (44) gave a talk on the plight of the Karen people. She works in Thailand with people who have been displaced by the Burmese army. They live in poor conditions and are afraid to return to their homes because they believe they may be enslaved.

Sonya said: "I was overwhelmed with the kindness and generosity of the Llantwit Major community."

Joe Claase.

Joe says the Karen people have been forgotten people and wants the west to have a better understanding of what is happening on the Burma-Thailand border.

Sonya's husband Tah Dah Moo is still in Burma and involved in the ongoing peace negotiations as a member of the executive committee of the Karen state.

Joe said: "The peace talks are on-going and there is going to be a big session on September 22."

The Claase family want to thank everyone who attended the event.

Joe explained: "It was tremendous. All our friends rocked up and everyone was so friendly. Sonya spoke and it raised awareness of the issues involved.

"People said to me 'you have a lovely daughter, we wish she could have talked longer'.

"It was a great atmosphere and people kindly responded to the raffle.

"I'd like to thank The GEM for its coverage too."

CHARITY PETANQUE FOR LLANCARFAN!

A charity petanque tournament will be hosted by Llancarfan society on Sunday, September 28, in aid of College Fields Nursing Home and Marie Curie Cancer Care; it is intended to stage the event for eight local teams in total.

For those 'not in the know', the game of boules (not to be confused with bowls) is played by teams of three people of all ages and abilities with balls on a piste.

The rules are simple and quick to learn and if you're not sure, there's always someone who will be happy to explain.

Teams will meet at Llancarfan Village Hall at 12.15pm where refreshments will be available.

Order of play for the afternoon's competition will then be confirmed with matches commencing at 1.45pm. Spectators of all ages are welcome!

Should you wish to register a team for this exciting event, or require more detail before you do, please contact Russ Watts on 07779 157407 or email russ.watts@btopenworld.com.

Final entry date for team submissions will be Wednesday, September 24 (£10 per team) and will be strictly on a first come, first served basis.

We look forward to seeing you on September 28 for the first of what we hope will become many of these team games that promote local engagement that is fun for everybody!

PHIL WATTS AND FAMILY

Cowbridge Town Hall hosts First World War commemoration with a living history event

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Please contact:

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Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

On Saturday, September 6, members of the Great War Society and the Western Front Association, in partnership with Cowbridge History Society, staged a First World War commemoration day in Cowbridge Town Hall.

Visitors were able to research their ancestors and chat with British and German re-enenactors about the artefacts and weapons of the Great War. In addition, there were displays of medals, as well as individual soldiers' stories and items relating to the Home Front.

Members of the GWS and WFA can next be seen at Penarth's WW1 Day on Saturday, October 18.

JPH

ASSOCIATION'S WORLD WAR ONE EXHIBITION

Jane Hutt AM with Terry Powell of the South Wales branch Western Front Association.

THE Vale's AM, Jane Hutt, took time at the weekend to visit the South Wales Western Front Association exhibition at the Cowbridge Lesser Hall.

She met members who raised funds to restore the Mametz Wood memorial, (a red dragon memorial to Welsh soldiers who died in a World War One battle in northern France) which was also supported by the Welsh Government.

The association is now planning for commemorative events in France for July 2016 to which Jane pledged her support.

BARRY WOOLWORTHS' STAFF ENJOY NOSTALGIC REUNION

On Saturday, August 30 former members of staff of Barry Woolworths met up for a happy reunion. Reminiscences dated back as far as the 1950s. Many wonderful memories were exchanged. Lynne Bryan said: "We want to thank College Fields for hosting the reunion, and thank the people who attended – and made donations to a raffle with proceeds going to the nursing home."

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Baby Imogen arrives in the world in a car park outside PC World!

by TIM CHAPMAN

A Barry mum racing to the University Hospital of Wales was forced into an impromptu stop-off at PC World's car park, Culverhouse Cross, to give birth to little Imogen.

The drama took place last Saturday, September 6, after mum Katie Jenkins was told by doctors to make the trip into Cardiff after a midwife had gone on from Barry to help another mum-to-be in St Athan.

Katie's mother Annelie told The GEM: "On Saturday afternoon Katie was checked by a midwife who had to go on to St Athan for a woman whose situation appeared to be more urgent.

LEFT: Imogen is a picture of health despite her dramatic entry into the world!

"Katie was going to have a home birth and had arranged a birthing pool which costs £90.

"My husband Keith and I arrived at Katie's house and Keith took her sons Spencer and Joel back to our house.

"I stayed with her, and we got to stage where there was no break in the contractions and we phoned the Heath who told us to come in.

"Katie's partner James drove and I was in the back with Katie.

"Fortunately, we had the presence of mind to take towels.

"As we got to Wenvoe Golf Club her waters broke.

"We called an ambulance and had to pull into the car park at PC World, Culverhouse Cross.

"The next thing I knew, I was having to rush round to the other side of the car to help Katie as she gave birth to Imogen!"

A paramedic arrived on the scene.

Annelie said: "I don't know what his name was, but he was brilliant and cut the cord so I could hold Imogen."

Katie was still recovering!

Twenty minutes later an ambulance was on the scene and took Katie to hospital with Imogen, Annelie, James and the paramedic following behind.

The family were reunited at the University Hospital of Wales. Amazingly, Katie was back at home by 11pm.

Annelise added: "It is no fault of the midwives, but I do think there is a shortage of them."

Despite the drama Katie and Imogen are doing well back home in Barry.

Souls Awaken for a fantastic event!

THE Vale's premier Mind, Body, Spirit Souls Awakening returns to The Memo, Barry on Sunday, September 14 for another fantastic event.

Contact Emma Jones on 07591 659 015, blakey73@hotmail.com or find the event on Facebook.

TOUR DATE AT ST DONAT'S

ACOUSTIC singer, composer and musician Louise Jordan, who has just launched her third album 'Veritas', will stop off at St Donats Arts Centre on Friday, October 11 at 7.30pm.

With four recordings, six UK and one European tour already under her belt, Louise Jordan is back on the road visiting venues across the UK. She will perform tracks from her album 'Veritas', including an original song about New Forest smuggler Lovey Warne.

PAUL'S MAGNIFICENT CHARITY MARATHON

RIGHT: Vale resident Paul Owen has completed the great marathon cycle ride of the United Kingdom from John O'Groats to Land's End. The distance is 1,000 miles and Paul took on the challenge unsupported and staying in B & Bs. At the latest count he had raised £2,910 for MIND, the mental health charity

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Fundraisers cycle Taff Trail challenge TWICE in memory of little Oscar

TARGET IS £10,000 FOR CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

TACKLING one 52-mile cycling challenge wasn't enough for a team of dedicated fundraisers who decided to complete it twice in memory of a toddler who died in June this year.

Oscar Evans, aged two-and-a-half, sadly lost his battle with a rare genetic condition (Menkes Disease) on June 1.

And now, his family and friends are on a fundraising mission – to raise £10,000 in his memory for Tŷ Hafan, the family hospice for young lives at Sully.

Oscar's father, Andrew Evans, of Pontprennau, and his 'Oscar's Army' teams cycled from Cardiff to Brecon last Saturday evening before getting on their bikes again the next day to tackle Tŷ Hafan's popular Taff Trail cycling challenge which finished in Bute Park, Cardiff.

They joined 100 teams to complete the full Taff Trail challenge from Brecon and the two women's teams, Oscar's Angels, tackled the half Taff with 37 other groups from Merthyr Tydfil to Cardiff.

Andrew said: "We took part in the Taff Trail challenge last year and raised just short of £5,000. This year, we decided to take part again but with an extra twist.

"We decided to double the challenge and cycle from Cardiff to Brecon the night before, completing a total of 104 miles in two days.

"This year has been far more emotional as we are now raising funds in memory of our gorgeous

ABOVE: 'Oscar's Army' teams at the starting line of the Tŷ Hafan Taff Trail Cycling Challenge.

'}above: son Oscar, who devastatingly passed away in June this year. We can't thank Tŷ Hafan enough for what they have done for us and we have a target in mind of £10,000 which we would like to raise for Tŷ Hafan in Oscar's memory."

He added: "It is vitally important for people to fundraise for Tŷ Hafan so that they continue to provide amazing care for life-limited children and their families."

A number of teams took part due to personal connections with the charity, including 'Team Alice' and five 'Amazing Archie' teams who cycled in memory of two-year-old Archie Watson. Welsh Paralympic cyclist Mark Colbourne MBE also took on the challenge after officially starting the event in Brecon at 8.30am.

He said: "It was fantastic to see more than 500 cyclists raring to go at the start line. Everybody had great fun and there was lots of laughing and camaraderie along the route, which was wonderful.

"Tŷ Hafan is a fantastic cause doing amazing work for life-limited children and it was great to see so many people supporting and raising money on the day. Well done Tŷ Hafan for organising such a fantastic fundraising event!"

The event, sponsored by GVA, is expected to raise more than £50,000 for Tŷ Hafan, which needs to raise £3.7m each year to provide its services. Tŷ Hafan would also like to thank Brecon Carreg, Burtons Biscuits, Laguna Health and Spa, 9bar and Steve Gunter Photography for their support.

The charity's next event is its west Wales Rainbow Run in Pendine Sands, Carmarthenshire, on Saturday, September 27. For more information or to register, please visit www.rainbowrunwales.co.uk

'Prayers in the Air' launched in Vale

A MASS balloon launch dubbed 'Prayers in the Air' will launch the Open Churches Day being staged by nine churches in the Vale of Glamorgan this coming weekend.

Rev Canon Edwin Counsell abseils down!.

Seven churches from the East Vale group of churches are combining with two neighbouring chapels for the event, organised as part of the CADW Open Doors programme, which sees heritage sites throughout Wales opening to the public for free this month.

The day will start with the launch of 200 balloons from the church tower of St Nicholas at 10am this Saturday, September 13. Each balloon will carry a prayer written by local school children and residents.

This will be followed at 10.15am by a short walk from St Nicholas via Trehill and Croes y Parc Chapels to Peterston Church, where walkers can enjoy their packed lunches and listen to a music recital from noon onwards.

The walk will then continue on to Pendoylan.

The nine churches and chapels which will open between 10am and 3pm are Croes-y-Parc Baptist Church; Trehill Presbyterian Church; St George's, St George-super-Ely; St Mary's, Bonvilston; St Donat's, Welsh St Donats; St Cadoc's, Pendoylan; St Peter's, Peterston-super-Ely; St Nicholas, St Nicholas and St Brides, St Brides-super-Ely.

All churches will be displaying church records and St Mary's will also be showing the history of Bonvilston. The day will end with the ringing of the church bells at around 3pm.

Last year, Rev Martyn Davies and Rev Canon Edwin Counsell abseiled down the church tower at Welsh St Donats as hundreds turned out to walk, cycle, jog and horse ride between the churches on open doors day.

This year, most people will be walking:

"We just wanted to do something different this year and engage more with the schools, so we asked pupils at the four Church in Wales schools in the area to write the majority of prayers and messages for the balloons," said Rev Martyn Davies, of the East Vale group of parishes.

"Hopefully, this will encourage children to come to the launch, come to church and to pray. There will be a competition for the balloon that travels the furthest.

"By slowing the whole day down and by taking the walking route past the two chapels, it will make the event more ecumenical and enable people to engage more with each other across all the age ranges.

"And I'm certainly not sorry that I don't have to abseil again!"

For times and more details on all the Open Door events, visit www.cadw.wales.gov.uk/open doors.

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'State of Nature' report is under the microscope

'THE State of Nature' report was much in the news last week.

Barry & Vale Friends of the Earth had a successful meeting with Erica Dixon, the Vale's ecology officer, to discuss it.

Erica gave a presentation which revealed how little meadowland and open space is available and how much of our biodiversity has been lost.

The group were horrified to hear of landowners who break the law by ploughing up rare wildlife rich meadows, to prepare for housing which has not even had permission and which many local people oppose.

The group agreed with Erica, that developers who are out to despoil our environments should first be stopped.

Secondly, they should be negotiated with, if development is given the go-ahead and thirdly, much more money has to be paid out, to compensate for the loss of habitats, so they can be replaced, on a larger scale.

The group agreed that developers should comply with all national/international wildlife laws and regulations, while providing ecology reports.

The group were concerned to hear that Erica's working partner in promoting biodiversity has not been re-appointed, leaving Erica to do a difficult job alone.

We will be asking the Vale Council to appoint a full-time biodiversity officer to work alongside Coun Rob Curtis, the Vale's biodiversity champion, with a remit to increase biodiversity, through ensuring a green belt around Barry.

We should include the extension/joining up of the ancient woodland areas which are already protected, and the redevelopment of the old Environmental Studies Centre in Weycock Cross Woodlands.

The children and young people of the Vale would then have a local base to learn about their environments.

We urge the Vale Council to take up these challenges, take the environment from the bottom of their list, and begin the journey of recovery for our decimated wildlife.

As our Patron Saint said: "Take care of the little things".

Keith Stockdale
Barry & Vale FoE coordinator

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'Thank you very much to the people of Wales. I've had a wonderful time' – **President Obama**

THE NATO SUMMIT HAS PUT WALES ON WORLD STAGE!

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by **Jane Hutt AM** *(Minister for Finance)*

LITTLE did we know what a momentous occasion and significant point in history the 2014 Nato summit would be when it was announced that it would be in Wales, at the Celtic Manor in Newport.

At the time, we realised that this would mean that a sitting President of the United States, Barack Obama, would be visiting Wales.

However, we could not anticipate the enormous impact his visit would have - not only in terms of his vital and prominent role as a world leader at the Nato summit, but also his engagement with the people of Wales during his short time with us, leaving with these words:

"*Thank you very much to the people of Wales. I've had a wonderful time. I want to thank the people of Newport and Cardiff and the people of Wales for welcoming me and my delegation so warmly*," – President Barack Obama September 5, 2014.

I was fortunate to have been invited to the reception hosted by the Prince of Wales at Celtic Manor, which was attended by many world leaders, who met a wide range of people from across Wales, including our Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Coun Howard Hamilton. St David's Award winners were invited to the reception, including Karin Williams from Rhoose, who was recognised for her courage and bravery as the 'lollipop lady' who was severely injured protecting her pupils outside Rhoose Primary School last year.

It was wonderful to see Karin Williams being introduced to the President by the Prince of Wales.The most compelling moment for me was seeing the way President Obama spoke to children and young people from local primary and secondary schools to greet him.

They held out their hands and beamed at him as he asked their names and thanked them for coming to see him and giving him their messages for the summit. I think his warmth, humanity and dignity shone through at every public occasion he attended – including those shots of him at Stonehenge, on his way back to the heavy burdens of state which awaited him in the United States.

I was also pleased to hear about the excellent service provided by Cardiff Airport which received and hosted the planes of world leaders during the summit and received many delegations and accompanying staff and press.

Congratulations to all the Cardiff Airport staff, who have worked so hard to give such an excellent and professional service to dignitaries from across the world, while maintaining their normal business. Also, many local businesses were fully engaged in the summit such as the team of cabinet makers who made giant 25m tables for the world leaders to sit around. That team was from Llandow in the Vale, led by Paul Rathkey.

Of course, there were tensions leading up to the summit about the impact it would have on the lives of people in this part of Wales; but I have had nothing but expressions of praise and pride expressed about the welcome we gave in Wales – and the important fact that Wales was at the forefront of international news across the world. Wales was on the world map.

Leading up to the summit questions were asked about what it could achieve. Dr Christian Bueger of Cardiff University said: "At this summit, Nato will have to confront its future." He also highlighted the challenges the world leaders faced and would discuss. To hear Ukraine President Poroshenko speak about the peace treaty he had secured for his country and people at Celtic Manor on Friday was momentous. We all hope and pray for the ceasefire to hold and negotiations to continue towards a long-lasting settlement.

The children and young people who have spent time preparing for the Nato summit from across Wales, made a huge impact on President Obama and his colleagues, with their messages about the world they want to grow up in 'where people from different countries and cultures can live in peace together' as Elin Hemstock from Wrexham said in her message to the summit.

Before the summit, Dr Bueger said: "*Nato will put Wales on the world stage*."

He was right to predict this and I believe the summit made this happen. We now have to move forward to ensure we maximise those benefits, locally, nationally and internationally – for the sake of the children and young people of Wales, who will never forget the time they met the President of the United States of America.

I believe they were representing children and young people from across the world.

Mayor hears of plans for coastwatch station

THE Mayor and Mayoress of the Vale recently visited the Coastwatch Station at Nell's Point, Barry Island and were given a guided tour by the station manager, Terry Ewington and Jeni Sweet, the watchkeeper on duty.

The Mayor, Coun Howard Hamilton, said: "This has been a very interesting visit and I have learnt so much about the work of the National Coastwatch Institution. I would like to thank all the volunteers who give up their time to man this station and provide a valuable service to the public".

The coastwatch station at Nell's Point was the first NCI Station established on the Welsh coast. In August this year, the NCI were allocated a national license by OFCOM for the use of a VHF channel. This will help communications between NCI lookouts and seafarers on a variety of routine matters.

Stations will be able to respond to requests from passing, as well as local sailing craft and fishing vessels for radio checks, as well as actual weather and sea state conditions.

The facility is scheduled to become operational on October 1, when National Coastwatch stations will go live for the first time. For further information, visit www.nci.org.uk.

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Don John, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

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IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.
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We will (in certain circumstances)protect a writer's identity, if requested.

'Not the same as FGM cruelty'

IN response to your recent correspondent, Mr Christopher Short, on the delicate subject of FGM and circumcision, I can't quite decide whether he is being truly disingenuous or simply ignorant.

Anyone who can consider FGM, an act of hideous lifetime cruelty, to be on the same plane as the latter, seems so very short on imagination.

Paul Eddins,
Llantwit Major.

'NOT EQUALLY ABHORRENT'

AS The GEM is a family newspaper, I will not go into detail, but simply point out to a recent letter writer, Mr Short, that the results of FGM, should the girl survive, include long term gynaecological and urinary infections through the sewing up of the area; appalling pain during intercourse, and danger to both mother and child when the victim comes to give birth.

And the purpose of this practice is to deprive the victim of any sexual pleasure, thereby keeping her 'chaste'.

These are some of the reasons why FGM is illegal in this country.

Circumcision is a minor operation in comparison, and not carried out purely for religious reasons.

It is not 'equally abhorrent' as he suggests.

In fact, were it truly comparable, the entire external male genitalia would be removed.

Mrs Bramble Coppins, Barry.

'Give little guys a chance, Sid!'

IN answer to the letter in last week's GEM from the alter ego of Sid the Seagull...

My husband and I have lived in the same house in Barry for 45 years. We are not that close to the sea, but for the last two or three years we have been inundated by nesting seagulls. Two chicks were born on our roof this year and two more on a near neighbour's roof.

Apart from squawking and squeaking from the gulls and chicks at 1am, 3am and 5am and at regular intervals during the day, their droppings on washing lines, windows and cars are an unpleasant nuisance.

Until three years ago, our garden feed boxes were visited by chaffinches, goldfinches, greenfinches, robins, blue tits and sparrows. Now just one pair of blackbirds visit as the gulls, crows and magpies have taken up residence. In fact, one magpie chick fell down our chimney and had to be rescued.

Maybe we should leave our green food waste boxes open so that Sid and his scavenging pals can help themselves. Better still, revert back to food in black bags, so they can be ripped apart and rubbish strewn over roads and pavements.

Perhaps the Vale Council should cancel their advice for us not to feed gulls and take down the notices on Penarth Pier urging us not to feed them! Seagulls are very resourceful and need no help from us finding food.

So, Sid, give the little guys a fighting chance and stop snatching food from the hands of children.

Dianne Hooper, Barry.

Wartime Weekend's poignant memories

I ENJOYED your coverage of the Wartime Weekend event which, for 'old timers' like me, brought back poignant memories of living in the town during the war years.

Barry was a very different place then. I smiled to see the old vehicles that we all knew so well, the uniforms (including PoWs) and even the ladies' styles of that time – all brought back the years 1939-1945.

The little steam train running across to the Island station was quite a novelty, although it's a pity it couldn't have been in green GWR livery!

The rather small museum on the station was also very interesting, but very limited, possibly owing to the lack of space. I would like to see it enhanced and expanded, as it could be a valuable asset to recording and expanding the town's history.

However, that would probably need a financial backer.

I would like to see the event become an annual one.

David Cirell, Barry.

Library volunteers: *TWO QUESTIONS REMAIN*

FURTHER to my letter to The GEM expressing concern about proposals for volunteer-led library services, I and, I assume, others who commented have now had a reply from Coun Moore.

I was pleased to note that he made it clear that no decision had been taken so far and that there would be a formal consultation on the proposals.

However, I felt two points were unclear and as I gather a number of people have also expressed concern, I felt I should write again to get the position clarified – to ensure that all who wish to comment can do so.

Firstly, Coun Moore's letter invited me to respond to the formal consultation. I am concerned that this might mean that comments received before the actual consultation will not be taken into account.

Personally, this does not cause me a problem, subject to point two below, but I feel it could cause unnecessary work and expense for others, notably those mainly elderly people who do not have easy access to the internet.

In these circumstances, I would ask the councillor to state publicly that comments received before the consultation starts will be taken into account during the decision-making process, even if the person making them has not responded formally.

Secondly, it was not clear how the consultation would be carried out and publicised.

I appreciate that this may be because the final proposals and consultation process have not been settled.

However, I think it would help if Coun Moore explained publicly how consultation will be carried out, what publicity will be given to it, and confirmed that those who have made 'early' comments will be contacted personally, so that they can respond.

In my original letter, I expressed doubts about the council's ability to get an adequate number of volunteers and Coun Moore's reply did not convince me that this issue had been properly thought through.

Hopefully, the final scheme will deal with this, rather important, point.

Gavin Davies, Penmark.

'Nato summit was terrific for Wales' – SAYS LOCAL MP

THE Vale MP, Alun Cairns, said this week that the Nato summit "set a new benchmark for events in Wales".

He attended Prince Charles' reception in his Wales Office ministerial role at the Celtic Manor, along with Rhoose resident Karin Williams.

Mrs Williams, winner of the St David award for bravery, and the MP met President Barack Obama and Chancellor Angela Merkel during the event.

Mr Cairns reported that he had visited several schools across south Wales and met history students at Barry Comprehensive School, to explain the role of Nato.

The MP commented: "The Nato summit has been terrific for the profile of our country and for local Vale businesses like cabinet maker Rathkeys. We will continue to see the benefit for years to come, and this is the new benchmark for events in Wales."

Craft group's rug for Ty Hapus

LAST week Barry Hookers' crochet and craft group met as usual at Coffee Cove, Barry Island, and welcomed friends from Ty Hapus, in sharing coffee, chat, and craft ideas. A rag rug made by the craft group was then presented to Ty Hapus. Anyone can join the group on a Wednesday, between 10am and 12pm.

Streams unblocked in 'action day'

THE latest Community in Action day, held at Porthkerry Country Park, has been hailed as a success.

An army of willing voluntary helpers from all walks of life assisted rangers from Porthkerry and Cosmeston in clearing blocked streams at the end of August as part of the parks' Community in Action scheme.

Heavy rainfall and large numbers of woodland tree falls have led to an increase in the amount of material flowing and blocking the course of the streams.

Local volunteer Steve, who has been helping at the park for years, said: "I love being able to help out and make a difference to the habitats here at the park. Together we can really make a difference. I volunteer because I love it, not because I have to do it!"

The Local Cardiff Rivers Group, Natural Resources Wales Team and local volunteers from the community, young and old, pulled on their wellies and got stuck in, and were rewarded with a free barbecue for all their hard work.

To take part in the next Community in Action event, contact the Rangers on 01446 733589.

Stream clearance at Porthkerry

'Well done to Cardiff Airport'

SO the Nato summit has been and gone; let's hope we will see some positive outcomes.

However, we had been led to believe there might have been traffic and other disruptions – but none of it!

I drove around the airport perimeter twice a day and encountered no problems at all.

I feel congratulations should be expressed to all those at Cardiff Airport, not only to those involved in the high level logistical and political planning, but also to those who must have fulfilled their daily responsibilities with integrity and professionalism.

Fiona Guthrie,
Rhoose.

'Happy to have a gypsy site...'

I LIVE in Cadoxton, Barry, and recently had an anonymous flier posted though my letterbox, letting me know that the Vale Council is proposing to establish a site for gypsy/travellers on Hayes Rd, between Barry and Sully.

The flier includes an informative map of the area, with arcs emanating from Hayes Road (like shock waves from a neutron bomb), so the reader can confirm whether the site will be "*within one or two miles of your home or business*".

It then instructs the reader, if they are unhappy about the proposal, to "*contact your local, elected Vale councillor to register your objection*", and helpfully lists all the councillors' phone numbers on the back.

However, as well as forgetting to identify themselves, the author of the flier also failed to tell the reader what they should do if they are not unhappy about the proposal – so I wasn't sure what to do.

If whoever wrote the flier is reading this, could they please advise on what we should do in the event of being perfectly happy at the prospect of people moving onto a site in the area, and simply hope that the Vale ensures that everything is properly run, and that necessary services are all in place?

Carl Chapple, Barry.

'Ray's touching poem served as Welsh tribute'

THE GEM printed a poem written by Ray Pritchard of Talbot Green in its July 10 edition.

We have visited Mametz Woods on many occasions and thought the poem deserved to be exhibited as a tribute to all the Welsh who died there.

We laminated the poem and placed it on a tree on August 20, among many poppy crosses and flags. There was a steady stream of visitors including an ex-soldier, who was touched by the poem and took a photograph of it.

Thank you Mr Pritchard for your poem and for The GEM who published it.

Jean and Graham Underdown, Barry.

Vale roadworks

TEMPORARY traffic control: *B4265 from Gileston Cross to the Old Mill, St Athan; Buttrills Road, Barry; Old Wick Road, Llantwit Major; Port Road East between the junction of Stirling Road and Weycock Cross roundabout, Barry.*

Road closure: *Hensol Road, Hensol (near Hensol Villas); Broughton Road/Church Road, Wick.*

Welsh well placed for 21st century teaching

Pupils at Ysgol Gymraeg St Baruc, Barry.

DEMAND for Welsh medium education from parents across the Vale has risen steadily and, in recent years, has outstripped the number of places available in Welsh medium schools.

The Vale Council has responded positively and has approved substantial capital investment under the 21st century schools programme, which is 50 per cent funded by the Welsh Government.

Two new schools have opened, in Barry and Llantwit Major, and a sizeable extension has been built at Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth in Penarth.

Most recently, plans have been approved to double the size of Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant in the Gibbonsdown area of Barry.

• *More information about these developments, together with the innovative ways in which IT is being used across the curriculum and the advantages of Welsh medium education, will follow in a special GEM feature on September 25.*

SEJ

Y Gymraeg yn ffynnu mewn addysg yn yr 21fed ganrif

MAE'R gofyn am addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg gan rieni ar draws Bro Morgannwg wedi codi yn gyson ac yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf mae wedi mynd y tu hwnt i'r nifer o lefydd sydd ar gael.

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wedi ymateb yn gadarnhaol ac wedi buddsoddi cyfalaf sylweddol, gyda chymorth ariannol o 50 y cant oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cymru, o dan y rhaglen ysgolion yr unfed ganrif ar hugain.

Mae dwy ysgol newydd wedi agor, yn Y Barri a Llanilltud Fawr, ac estyniad sylweddol wedi ei adeiladu i Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth ym Mhenarth. Yn ddiweddar mae cynlluniau wedi eu cymeradwyo i ddybli maint Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant yn ardal Gibbonsdown o'r Barri.

Ceri mwy am y datblygiadau hyn, ynghyd â gwybodaeth am y ffyrdd arloesol y defnyddir technoleg gwybodaeth ar draws y cwricwlwm a manteision addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg, mewn erthyglau arbennig yn y GEM ar 25 Medi.

SEJ

MERCHANT NAVY SERVICE

THE Merchant Navy Association (Wales) Barry branch will hold its annual service on Saturday, September 20 in the Memorial Hall, Barry at 11am.

Rev M Davies, honorary chaplain to the Barry branch, will officiate and Barry Male Voice Choir will also take part.

The service is open to all organisations and others, especially family members of serving and former members of the Merchant Navy, Royal Navy and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary.

A collection will be taken towards the cost of the service and in aid of seafarers' charities. In holding a Seafarers' service, we acknowledge the vital role played by the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force in convoy duties, also all those who follow the calling of the sea, deep sea fishermen, the lifeboat service etc.

The presence of branch standards will be greatly appreciated, the order of procedure being: Merchant Navy Associations, Royal Navy, Royal Air Force, Royal British Legion and all other standards.

A branch wreath will be laid prior to the service at the Merchant Navy Monument at 10.20am with a blessing. All other organisations are welcome to lay wreaths at this event.

After the main service at the Memorial Hall the Barry Male Voice Choir will provide entertainment.

We hope that you will continue to support and assist us in helping to ensure that this is once again, a successful event.

JT Greenway, Barry

Old school photo still brings back memories

THE photograph of Cowbridge Girls School in 1971, which was published in The GEM some weeks ago, is still bringing back memories.

The latest to get in touch is Sian Vaughan of Cowbridge, who had this to say:

"In the photo are the following girls. Depending on when in 1971 the photo was taken, we were either in form 2N or 3N. We are in the top photo from row 3 to behind the teachers, from about half way along the top photo.

"Susan Pearce, Sian Baty, Jane Hopkins, Susan Atkinson, Caroline Jones, Carolyn Sargeant, Sally Reynolds, Celia Hopkin, Lesley Havard, Eira Morris, Serena Johnson, Ceri James, Julie Broadbent, Linda Mills.

"Also in the top photo, top row, is Alison Jones (now Killick) about 18 from right. Susan James, sister of Ceri (now Harris) is also in the photo. Some of us are still living in Cowbridge. The following occupations have been followed: Doctors, nurses, teachers, local government, architect, among others."

The GEM at HOMEBASE

You can now collect your GEM newspaper every week from

Homebase, Pantreane Way, Culverhouse Cross, Cardiff CF5 4UG.

The Glamorgan GEM
THE VALE'S LONGEST SERVING COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER!

Vote for your favourite park

OVER 100 parks and green spaces in Wales received a Green Flag award this year and Keep Wales Tidy is now urging people to vote for their overall favourite.

Voting for the annual 'People's Choice' award has been opened, giving the public the power to decide which one of the 1,482 Green Flag Award sites in the UK should be named park of the year in an online vote.

The Vale had five parks awarded Green Flags, all of which can be voted for in the overall award. To vote, visit www.greenflagaward.org, select your region on the interactive map, find your favourite park or green space, and click the 'vote for this site' button.

The vote will close at 12pm on September 30 and the winner of the 2014 People's Choice will be announced on October 16.

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Children's hospital appeal boosted by a classic car show

THE second successful Vale of Glamorgan Classic Car Show organised by the Dinas Powys Rotary Club in May, meant a large donation could be made to the main charity it supported, 'The Noahs Ark Appeal' for the Children's Hospital for Wales at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff.

The club was visited by their fundraising manager, Paula Langston, who gave a presentation outlining the work that is being done and what is planned for the next phase.

The photograph (above) shows Paula being presented with the cheque by last year's president of the Rotary Club of Dinas Powys, Tony Stevens, the current club president, Colin Jones, together with Spiro Tanti, show president and David Wiltshire, show chairman.

Tony Stevens said: "We are very pleased to support this wonderful charity that is doing such great work for our children. We are grateful to all those who supported the show by entering their classic cars and motorcycles and, of course, all those who attended."

Funds raised through various sources at the show amounted to more than £3,000. The balance of the money raised at the show will be distributed by the club, as last year, responding to international disasters and local and national charities.

The 2015 show is on Bank Holiday Monday, May 25; see details at http://www.valeofglamorganclassiccarshow.net/.

MACMILLAN CHARITY COFFEE MORNING

THE 'Penarth Live at Home Scheme' will be holding a Macmillan coffee morning at Trinity Church, Stanwell Road, Penarth, on Friday, September 26 from 10am-11.30am.

"Everyone knows someone who has been affected by cancer, so please come along and support this fantastic charity," a spokesperson urges.

Cathedral School is building on strong foundations

A-Level study at the Cathedral School.

PUPILS at the Cathedral School receive first class academic teaching, take part in a wide co-curricular programme, develop their leadership skills and confidence, and are supported through high-quality, pastoral care within a Christian context.

Following the opening of the new Sixth Form centre and infant facilities last year, the state of the art senior classroom building opened this term, featuring eight classrooms, two science laboratories and prep room, as well as smaller study areas.

The school's outstanding reputation for music is well known: 40 pupils lead choral worship in Llandaff Cathedral, but beyond this there are many ensembles, choirs and groups performing regularly.

Sport is also strong: a culture of sporting excellence exists, with rugby, football, cricket, hockey, netball and rowing taking pride of place.

Financial support is available for bright pupils at year-7 and year-12 entry, with scholarships for especially gifted children – academic, music, sport – and means tested bursaries worth up to 100 per cent of fees.

With 750 pupils, the school is small enough to ensure that everyone is known and cared for, yet large enough to offer a real breadth of challenge and opportunity. Estyn describe the school as excellent in its current performance, with excellent prospects for the future.

School transport is available with bus routes from Castleton, Cowbridge, Caerphilly, Llantrisant and Lisvane. Working parents are helped by wrap-around care available daily from 8am – 6pm.

For further information, visit www.cathedral-school.co.uk or contact the Registrar Mrs Pam Critcher on 029 2083 8504 or registrar@cathedral-school.co.uk.

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woodard schools

'Wooden horse' race night for two children's hospices

Gwent county executive officer Glyn Davies auctioning off wooden horses.

FUW ladies enjoyed the wooden horse race.

Farmers Union of Wales' Glamorgan and Gwent branches enjoyed a hugely successful wooden horse race night in aid of union president Emyr Jones' charity fund for children's hospices Tŷ Hafan and Tŷ Gobaith and the Wales Air Ambulance.

Over 200 people attended event at FUW member Lorraine Howells' Cwm Carno Farm, near Rhymney.

It featured six wooden horses auctioned off before the start of each race, with the winners proceeding to a grand final.

"It was the second time the union has held this event at Lorraine's farm and we are delighted that we have managed to raise £3,500 for these great charities and money is still coming in," said FUW Glamorgan county executive officer Rachel Saunders.

"All the races were sponsored by local businesses and guests enjoyed a lovely cold meat supper, including roast ham, beef, pork and a wide selection of salads.

"Many of the volunteers also donated an excellent variety of cakes and desserts, which went down extremely well with the guests," said Mrs Saunders.

"I would like to thank all the sponsors, volunteers and, of course, the guests, who made this event such a success and who have travelled from all over Wales to support us," said Miss Howells.

"I would also like to extend a special thank you to FUW Gwent county executive officer Glyn Davies, who provided a huge amount of help and support in setting up the race track as well as the bar for the evening

"He also kindly used his sheep sales skills to auction the race horses and provided commentary for the races!" Miss Howells added.

Regional AM's praise for Welsh medium school

A Welsh medium, comprehensive has been praised after topping the schools 'league table' for south Wales.

Ysgol Bro Morgannwg featured prominently in the recently-published Real Schools Guide, coming fourth in Wales, and first in south Wales.

Praise came from Conservative regional AM Andrew RT Davies, who noted the school's "meteoric rise" from 96th last year to fourth this year. He said: "Everyone at the school must be rightly proud to have achieved such an improved ranking.

"This is the result of the hard work and dedication of pupils and teachers alike over the last year.

"An impressive 96 per cent of pupils achieved five A to C results in their GCSEs.*

"I wish the next cohort all the best in continuing to fulfil their potential," the AM added.

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Out and About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON

Lib Dem surgery

ELUNED PARROTT, Lib Dem AM for south Wales central, will be holding an advice surgery on September 12 at Morrisons' supermarket, Penny Way, Barry, CF63 4BA between 1pm and 2pm.

Residents who have any issues of concern to them or their local community are encouraged to pop along; *no appointment is necessary.*

Bargains galore!

BARGAIN sale, Newton Institute, Porthcawl, Saturday September 13 (10am – 4pm). Free admission.

Everything 50p or less. Clothes, toys, games, books, jigsaws, pictures.

Big Fill

THE Vale's Big Fill team will be visiting Court Ward in Barry on September 13/14.

Potholes can be reported to the Vale Council by telephone on 01446 700111, or via email at clv@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Nearly New

ON Saturday (September 13) there will be a charity nearly new sale in Cowbridge Leisure Centre, CF71 7DA (11am – 12.30pm).

Sellers should call Julie (01656 662564) to pre-register, or email *nctmearlynewsales@live.co.uk.*

Donations of cakes and raffle prizes gratefully received. Proceeds in aid of the National Childbirth Trust Vale and Valleys branch, which is raising funds to train two breastfeeding counsellors and antenatal teacher.

Donations welcome: www.nct.org.uk/in-your-area/southwales.

Diabetes meeting

THE Vale of Glamorgan Diabetes UK Voluntary Group will meet on Tuesday, September 16 in the Board Room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth, at 7.30pm – 9pm, when Dr Lindsay George and two diabetes specialist nurses will present a Q&A session. All welcome.

NFU Ladies

ON Tuesday, September 16, NFU Ladies Club resumes after a summer break at the Village Hall, Penllyn at 7.30pm; ***new members are always welcome.***

Charity coffee

ON Friday, September 19, Tesco Barry, Highlight Park is holding a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan, at 11am. ***"Please come along and have a coffee and cake with us to support this wonderful charity," a spokeswoman urged.***

Baruc Art Group's 40th birthday!

ON September 19, Baruc Art Group is celebrating its 40th anniversary.

The group was founded on September 20, 1974.

Club secretary Irene Lewis said: "We are having a lunch at St Andrew Golf Club, Argyle Lane, Barry for 47 members and their partners.

For more information about the lunch contact 01446 413626.

Cowbridge Holistic fair

ENJOY an afternoon of pampering and learning about holistic health on Saturday, September 20.

Free entry, try taster sessions from a range of experienced complementary therapists, try a card reading?

It runs from 12 noon – 5pm, at The Little Shop of Calm, Cowbridge; also Fairtrade gifts and autumn clothing.

David Emanuel's Macmillan morning

ON Friday, September 6 Macmillan Cancer Support Ambassador David Emanuel is hosting his Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning at Gileston Manor, Gileston, CF62 4HX.

Come and explore the beautiful gardens, have coffee and cake in the wonderful surroundings, win prizes in the raffle and tombola, while raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Gates open at 10am. Admission at gate is £5, car parking available.

Scout jumble sale

THE Cowbridge Scout Group is running its very popular annual jumble sale again on Saturday, September 20 at the Scout Hall, from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

The Scout Group will be dropping leaflets through many Cowbridge doors looking for jumble to collect.

If you have jumble you want collected, contact cowbridgescoutgroup@outlook.com.

Coastal Watch coffee break

CADOXTON (Barry) WI is holding a charity coffee morning on Tuesday, September 23 at the Civic Offices.

Doors open 10.30am. Proceeds to Coastal Watch (Barry) and Cadoxton Primary School.

Admission is £1.50 includes tea/coffee. Various stalls and raffles.

Cancer fundraiser

PONTYCLUN and District Macmillan fundraising group will hold a coffee, cake and pampering event at Pontyclun Rugby Club on Friday, September 26 at 10am-2pm; tickets £1.

Treats and eats on offer; Indian head massage, reflexology, mini manicure and pedicure. *All welcome*

Autumn concert

PORTHCAWL Community Orchestra's autumn concert is on Saturday, October 11 (at 7pm) in Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, New Road, Porthcawl.

Tickets £5, available on the door, or by visiting the website, *www.porthcawlorchestra.co.uk.*

Charity walk

THE Barry committee of Cancer Research UK (Cymru) is holding a sponsored walk to raise funds on Sunday, October 12 at 11am from the Cardiff barrage, Penarth.

For sponsorship forms and more information, contact Dawn on 01446 743506.

RAFA concert in Barry

Barry branch of the Royal Air Force Association will present a concert on September 26 at St Mary's Church, Holton Road, Barry, featuring Jodi Bird (*right*).

All proceeds go towards the RAFA Wings Appeal (*full details at rafa.org.uk*). The Vale and Barry town Mayors, plus MoD St Athan personnel will be present.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D843.

- **£2,000: 201733.**
- **The rollover, which now stands at £500 was won by 142073.**
- **£10:** 751161, 152439, 111737, 594998, 619143, 762943, 639048, 663284, 808470, 291395, 533882, 616128, 331810, 964211, 681367, 112223, 267353, 316120, 747830, 201.
- **£5:** 963685, 715979, 961982, 450981, 925562, 398832, 506522, 153228, 668794, 611168, 735778, 414095, 950541, 154792, 811000, 175829, 202178, 352524, 955064, 788420, 732703, 715133, 177386, 847576, 342681, 589487, 357310, 649172, 685608, 529395, 210526, 576856, 472363, 362228, 558422, 344575, 797925, 218636, 378617, 514593, 563205, 744845, 740546, 109022, 308082, 502728, 243166, 252859, 214313, 472727, 243045, 439812, 381136, 859660, 805984, 985193, 683718, 441972, 603, 1207.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Desert Divas' 10th anniversary

THE Desert Divas, a South Wales Middle Eastern dance troupe who first met at a Barry Adult Education class, will celebrate a decade of dancing together, on September 20 at Memo, Barry.

Joining them on stage will be dancers featuring styles from all over the world.

The show will also feature local band, The Jensen Effect, whose new single, Proud, featuring the voices of several local choirs recorded in Barry, is available on iTunes and through Amazon. They are all working together to raise money for Ty Hapus Dementia Care Centre in Barry.

There will be two raffles on the night; as well as generous donations from local businesses. The Jensen Effect have secured a framed, signed rugby shirt, worth £2,000.

Entrance tickets, £10, can be purchased from any member of the Divas, or by contacting Andy Griffiths at Barry Library on 0781 777 3479.

Day Trips & Tours
Winter/Spring 2014/15

Date	Day	Destination	Adult	OAP Child
12/11/14	Wed	Carmarthen Market	£9.75	£8.25
29/11/14	Sat	Worcester Xmas Fayre	£13.75	£13.00
30/11/14	Sun	Ludlow Medieval Xmas Fayre	£15.00	£14.00
08/12/14	Sat	London Fayre: Sights & Shopping	£20.00	£19.00
01/12/14	Sun	Bath Xmas Market	£13.75	£12.75
11/2/15	Wed	Carmarthen Market & Bites	£9.75	£8.25
21/2/15	Sat	Cotswold Fy - Broadway	£11.95	£10.95
28/2/15	Wed	Stratford Market Town	£11.95	£11.00
14/3/15	Sat	Tewkesbury & Upton-on-Severn	£11.50	£10.75
11/3/15	Tue	Marton in Marsh Market Day	£11.00	£10.50
21/3/15	Sat	Gloucester Quays Shopping Complex	£12.50	£11.50
28/3/15	Sat	Newton Super Xmas	£14.50	£14.00
02/4/15	Thu	Monmouth, Ross-on-Wye Lakes	£11.50	£10.75
08/4/15	Thu	Oakwood Park *	£9.75	£8.75
18/4/15	Sat	Oxford City Centre	£14.25	£13.75
19/4/15	Sun	Drayton Manor Theme *	£14.00	£13.00
22/4/15	Wed	Carmarthen Market & Tesco	£9.75	£8.25
24/4/15	Sat	Harrogate Flower Show 4 day – 3 night Short Break	£249.00	£239.00
25/4/15	Sat	Windsor Xmas & Legoland *	£14.00	£13.00
02/5/15	Sat	Worcester City Centre	£13.75	£13.00
09/5/15	Sat	Malvern Spring Flower Show	£11.75	£10.75

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Short Break Holidays
Summer 2014

Harrogate Flower Show - 2015
4 Day Weekend 24-27 Apr 2015
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£249.00 Per Person. Fully Inclusive.

Derbyshire, Buxton Hall Hotel
5 Days (4 Nights) 11-15 May 2015
Staying at the grand 4 star Palace of Inglebrook in Buxton, we visit the location of the BBC TV drama 'The Village' and many of the locations that were filmed for the drama including scenes from Emmerdale.
£349.50 Per Person (Limited single rooms)

Lake District, Riverside Hotel
5 Day (4 Nights) 1-5 June 2015
Unlike some suggests this charming 3 star hotel enjoys a fabulous riverside location in the centre of Windermere, making it an ideal base from which to explore the Lake District. Breakfast B&B
£295.00 Per Person. Fully Inclusive.

Llangollen, Canals & Trains
5 Days, (4 Nights) 1-5 June 2015
Staying at the 3 star Wild Pheasant Hotel, Llangollen is a delightful enjoying the views and tranquillity of Berkeley street backward Little Trains of Wales as well as some of the most outstanding English hostelries. 4 Nights DBB.
£241.50 Per Person (Limited single rooms)

Isle of Wight Weekend Special
4 Days (3 Nights) 31 Jul-3 Aug 2015
Staying at the Travelodge Ventnor Hotel, but again we return to the friendly our family holiday run short weekend stay. Tour includes full coach incentive and lightly entertainment
£159.00 Per Person (Limited single rooms)

Sandringham & Norfolk Broads
5 Days (4 Nights) 20-24 Aug 2015
Staying at the 4 star Bo Peep Operation Hall Hotel. This tourist locales visit to the Royal Sandringham House and Norfolk Broads Cruise, includes 4 nights B&B.
£214.00 Per Person (Limited single rooms)

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Show 7.30-10.30pm
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Amnesia thriller is worth remembering

by GARETH JAMIESON
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WHILE Colin Firth may have been unable to keep up with the purple patch that saw him land successive Oscar nominations (and a win) for *A Single Man* and *The King's Speech*, he has still shone in projects ranging from the good (*Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*) to the not so good (*Devil's Knot*).

In his latest film, *Before I Go To Sleep*, Firth plays Ben, a man married to Christine (Nicole Kidman), a woman who, after a severe head injury, forgets all she knows when she sleeps, waking each day with no memory of what has gone before.

When Christine discovers she has been working with Dr Nash (Mark Strong) in an attempt to remember just what happened to her, new truths emerge that make her question everything around her...

Before I Go To Sleep is yet another film born from the pages of a fictional novel, part of the seeming constant flow of literary adaptations that are lending themselves to the big screen.

Given the cast assembled, you would hope that it would be a cut above the usual fare and you would be right, the film a twisting and turning piece of work that not only keeps you guessing, but never lets you feel wholly comfortable in its presence.

With the story being told directly from Christine's viewpoint, we, the audience, are as in the dark and unknowing as she is; the whys and hows, the fear of trusting in someone who may not actually be who they say they are, all are amplified by the way we are left hanging, doubting the motives of characters, and their telling of events, that have shaped Christine into the woman she has become.

This slippery tale could have been executed poorly, but writer/director Rowan Joffe wrings maximum tension from it; his screenplay drip feeds the audience slowly and surely, as new information eclipses and undoes what has gone before, while his direction is stylish yet grounded.

When the film grinds up a gear two/thirds of the way through, Joffe seems to be in his element, handling the change-up with confidence and an assured hand, something that permeates through his cast.

Nicole Kidman's recent output has been far more 'miss' than 'hit', but here the actress is on superb form, scrabbling for clues about just what it is that has happened to her and why she is suffering.

Despite being a victim, Kidman gives a steely, yet all too human, spark to Christine, her doggedness and determination as she discovers more and more about herself realised by the actress.

Mark Strong is as ever dependable as Dr Nash, stoic yet (and this could be down to his large number of villainous roles) always with a hint of danger below the surface, while Colin Firth, as the husband trying his best for a wife who barely remembers him, shades Ben in haunted tones, but again it's a performance that is knowing but also keeps you guessing.

While the aforementioned gear shift, from psychological drama to thriller, is well-handled by Joffe, it's a shift that feels a little awkward and, rather than ramping up the tension, reduces it to a somewhat schlocky and expected climax.

However, it is a well delivered effort that makes the most of the cast's star wattage and an intriguing story, making *Before I Go To Sleep* a very satisfying offering.

VERDICT: Marshalled with style and substance by writer/director Rowan Joffe, *Before I Go To Sleep* takes what could have been a B-Movie premise and crafts something intriguing and very watchable. A twisty story, coupled with sturdy performances from Kidman, Strong and Firth, make it a film well worth catching. *Recommended*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Memento* (2000), *Mulholland Drive* (2001).

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Homes & Gardens

A nip in the air means it's time to think of planting those spring bulbs!

There's a nip in the air which, to me, signals the end of summer and provides a wake-up call to start planting some spring bulbs to brighten up borders and patios next year.

Yet the wealth of varieties on offer, from crocus and dwarf narcissi to fragrant hyacinths and majestic tulips, can leave many gardeners wondering what to choose.

Suppliers are constantly trying to help customers select the best combinations. Suttons (*www.suttons.co.uk*), for instance, has a range called 'Plant-O-Mat', pre-planted bulbs inserted in individual compartments in a biodegradable tray.

You just dig a hole, put the tray in and cover it with compost. The range features a number of combinations, colours and sizes. They also cater for window boxes and containers.

If you want something different which is going to stand the test of time, *Gardening Which?*, the Consumers' Association magazine, has recently tested a number of new bulbs to see how they fared.

Researchers found that some new varieties will flower more consistently and for much longer than many older varieties.

Last autumn, triallists chose 50 newly-bred varieties of spring-flowering bulbs and grew them alongside five well-known varieties – daffodils 'Delnashaugh' and 'Dutch Master', and tulips 'Ballerina','Mount Tacoma' and 'Red Riding Hood' – for comparison.

Bulbs were planted in October: hyacinths 15cm deep, narcissus twice their own depth and tulips at three times their own depth. In spring, the bulbs' development was monitored, when they flowered, how long they lasted and their sizes, colours and scents.

In the latest batch of testing, researchers noticed a lot of colour-changing varieties (such as tulip 'Caribbean Parrot') with flowers that open in one colour then change to another as they age, adding a new element of interest.

New daffodils which came out on top included 'Ferris Wheel''(youtulip, *www.youtulip.co.uk*), a large bright yellow variety which grows to 40cm and produces immense trumpets with a frilly rim, flowering in April for around three weeks.

A more subtle variety, whose flowering period lasted up to 32 days, was 'Beautiful Eyes' (J Parker's, *www.jparkers.co.uk*) which has small, straight stems holding clusters of two or three creamy flowers with yellow centres and gives off a heady fragrance.

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Homes & Gardens

Who wants to build what and where in the Vale?

Mr Philip Walters – **East end of the Mole, Barry Docks** – Change of use from operational dockland to Barry community water activity centre, The Mole, Barry Docks.

Mr and Mrs Griffiths – **Land south of Llwyn On Cottage, Trerhyngyll** – Retention of restoration and extension of barn to provide stables.

Mr Clyde Ahmed – **Rear of Unit 7, Redrup Limited, Cardiff Road, Barry** – Proposed installation of a liquid bypass separator.

Meridian (Penarth Haven MAN Co Ltd – **The Meridian, Penarth Portway, Penarth** – Replace iron balustrades with glass.

Mr Bruno Cook – **7a Cosy Cottage, Elm Grove Road, Dinas Powys** – Replacement of double glazed windows with mock sash horns and the installation of a UPVC front door as an addition to the existing wooden front door.

Mr and Mrs Anthony Fettah – **Erwr Delyn Stud Farm, Sully Road, Penarth** – Construction of new rural enterprise dwelling.

Mr Eugene McCarthy – **Tynywaun Farm, Newton, Cowbridge** – Alterations to hay barn.

Mrs Michelle Proctor – **20 High Street, Penarth** – Proposed alteration to existing dormer window and additional dormer window.

Mr Thomas Lyne – **2 Cambrian Avenue, Llantwit Major** – Single storey side extension.

Mr Andrew Morris – **22 Benecrofte, Rhoose** – The addition of a side and rear extension with a new porch to the front elevation.

Mr John Williams – **Site of former Sea Lawns Hotel, Slon Lane, Ogmore by Sea** – Appearance (Reserved Matter) of seven apartments, associated with planning permission 2013/00881/OUT.

Mr and Mrs S Perry – **2 Mountjoy Close, Penarth** – Demolish existing front porch, rebuild porch and cloakroom.

Mr Craig Maunder – **Southra Farm, Southra, Dinas Powys** – Proposed alterations and extension to farmhouse.

Mr and Mrs Philip Atkin Charlotte Eckhardt – **Little Pen Onn, Llancarfan** – Proposed demolition of existing and construction of a new build house.

Mr Geoffrey Inch – **23 Adenfield Way, Rhoose** – Works to roof increasing ridge height and front dormer to provide first floor accommodation.

Mr Adrian Jones – **2 Britten Road, Penarth** – Two storey extension.

DS Properties – **Pump House, Hood Road, Barry** – Two composite aluminium panels.

Mr and Mrs Jerome Bowen – **Huckleberry, Sutton Lane, Ogmore by Sea** – Alteration and extension of existing dwelling.

Dr Ian Thomas – **Greenway Cottage, Greenway Lane, Bonvilston** – Proposed single storey garage to replace garage and hobby room (as approved 2013/00801/FUL) and also new amendments to main house extension as previously approved.

Mrs Elizabeth Kirke – **42 Merthyr Dyfan Road, Barry** – Demolish existing extension at rear and rebuild double extension.

Mr Brian Williams – **Plemont Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys** – Car port, single storey rear and loft conversion extension.

Mrs Margeret Morris – **36 Baron Road, Penarth** – Lean-to garage.

Mr Philip Whitehouse – **Plot next to 55, Lakin Drive, Barry** – Construction of new dwelling.

Mr and Mrs Carlson Tong – **Seawalls, 62 Graig Yr Eos Road, Ogmore by Sea** – New dwelling.

Mr Richard Price – **Land adjacent to Llantwit Major bypass, Boverton** – Change of use of agricultural land to residential development (C3) including demolition of a disused building and the deveopment of 64 residential dwellings, public open space, landscaping, highway improvements and associated engineering works.

Mr and Mrs C Housley – **12 Primrose Close, Cowbridge** – Demolition of existing rear elevation conservatory and erection of a single storey elevation extension.

Bay 5, The Old Lifeguard Station – **Old Lifeguard Station, The Promenade, Barry Island** – The change of use of Bay 5, Barry Island Promenade, from sui-generis to a mixed A1/A3 coffee shop, with associated works including layout changes to the building, and works to align the external appearance of the building to a coffee shop function.

Mr Stuart Howison – **South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Fire Station, Hazel Road, Penarth** – Extend and refurbish the single storey flat roof buiding to the west of the appliance bay to provide new modern facilities to meet SWFRS requirements; existing appliance bays and dormitories to be refurbished and upgraded; general upgrades to forecourt and service yard to meet SWFRS requirements; existing training tower to be cleaned and upgraded with new doors, roof and lighting; inclusion of temporary accommodation to the rear of the site for 8 – 9 months during construction and refurbishment works of the existing fire station.

Barratt Homes South Wales – **Former Emporium Garden Centre, Fferm Goch, Llangan, Cowbridge** – Condition 13 2012/00862/OUT is to be removed in line with Welsh Government legislation changes that have removed the requirement of Code for Sustainable Homes.

Mr Adam Daniel – **10, Heol Y Frenhines, Dinas Powys** – Proposed demolition of existing garage to be replaced with single storey rear extension to the dwelling to full width of the site.

Mr RJM Harris – **Peny Bryn Bottom Farm, Llanmaes** – Construction of new multi-purpose agricultural barn.

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We hope you like the new look. Be assured that while our products and skills have moved on over the past two decades, our attention to detail and determination to offer customers the best possible service has stayed the same.

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Homes & Gardens

Children help promote Dahlia contest at Dyffryn Gardens

IMAGINATION ran wild at Dyffryn Gardens, Bonvilston, when children took part in a creative Dahlia competition.

They responded to the challenge to imagine what a Dahlia might look like, with some surprising and unusual drawings of the flamboyant flower. Dyffryn spokeswoman Harriet O'Brien commented: "We've had a lovely time going through all the entries to our Dahlia competition. All the children have come up with such imaginative, colourful and bright creations."

The competition is helping to promote an exciting and quirky event at Dyffryn Gardens to celebrate the centenary of the Dahlia trials. Visitors are invited to bring along a bunch of Dahlias in return for a free entry pass to visit again and see their Dahlias, as a part of a spectacular floral display in the house.

Bring your seven dahlias to Dyffryn on Thursday, September 25 and receive free entry for the weekend (September 27-28) to see your Dahlias as part of a spectacular display in the house.

Mister Boiler asks: IS YOUR BOILER MISBEHAVING?

MISTER BOILER helps to keep the Vale of Glamorgan safe this Gas Safety Week.

In support of Gas Safety Week (September 15-21), the Gas Safe registered engineer from Mister Boiler Limited in the Vale of Glamorgan is pushing to raise awareness of gas safety among local residents.

By law, only Gas Safe registered engineers can work on gas. With a quarter of a million illegal gas jobs carried out every year by cowboys who do not have the skills or the qualifications to do the job safely, the public are being reminded, as part of Gas Safety Week, to check that the engineer they are using is registered.

The only way to do this is to ask for the Gas Safe ID card and check which appliances they are qualified to work on.

Gas Safety Week also hopes to encourage residents to get their appliances safety checked at least once a year. You can sign up to a free reminder service at *www.StayGasSafe.co.uk*, and use the interactive gas map to see how many unsafe gas appliances are lurking in your area.

If left unchecked, poorly serviced gas appliances can cause gas leaks, fires, explosions and carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

In the last year alone, 343 people were injured and 10 people died as a result of gas related incidents.

Scott 'Dusty' Millar, who owns Mister Boiler, said: "I regularly go out to homes and see unsafe appliances which either haven't been serviced in years, or have been ingly for me, when I go to these homes, residents are often unaware of the danger that they and their family's are in.

"For this reason, I'm pledging our support for Gas Safety Week and doing our bit to raise awareness of gas safety issues among the public in the Vale so they know what steps they can take to keep themselves safe."

Russell Kramer, chief executive for Gas Safe Register, said: "It's our engineers who are on the frontline dealing with dangerous or dodgy gas work on a daily basis. Every year however, far too many people suffer from preventable gas related accidents.

"It's great, therefore, that The GEM has pledged itssupport to Gas Safety Week. We want to encourage the public to only use Gas Safe registered engineers to fit, fix and service their gas appliances and to raise awareness of the importance of having an annual safety check."

Follow these simple checks to keep you and your family gas safe:

- Get your gas appliances safety checked at least once a year and serviced in line with the manufacturer's instructions. This includes your gas boiler, gas cooker and gas fire. Sign up at www.staygassafe.co.uk for a free reminder service.
- Always use a Gas Safe registered engineer when having gas work carried out in your home. You can find a registered engineer in your area by calling Gas Safe Register on 0800 408 5500 or visit www.GasSafeRegister.co.uk
- Check the front and back of your engineer's Gas Safe Register ID card, making sure they are qualified to do the specific type of gas work you require.
- Install an audible carbon monoxide alarm which will alert you if dangerous levels are present in your home.
- Check you know the six signs of carbon monoxide poisoning – headaches, dizziness, breathlessness, nausea, collapse and loss of consciousness.
- Check for warning signs your appliances aren't working correctly, such as lazy yellow or orange flames instead of crisp blue ones, black marks on or around the appliance and too much condensation in the room.

If you smell gas, or think there might be a gas leak, call the free 24-hour national gas emergency number immediately on ***0800 111 999.***

For more information, and to find a local engineer in your area, visit ***www.GasSafeRegister.co.uk*** *or call* ***0800 408 5500.***

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Taff Trail cycling test for the Teenage Trust

The Fontygary Three.

THREE colleagues from Fontygary Caravan Park in the Vale are taking on a Taff Trail cycling challenge on September 14 – to help young patients across south Wales.

Stephen 'Tilly' Sullivan, John 'Topoff' Roach and Stephen 'Stupid' Venebles will be cycling the 27.5 miles of the Taff Trail between Merthyr Tydfil and Cardiff Bay to raise money to support the Teenage Cancer Trust Unit in Cardiff.

The friends are undertaking the challenge to ensure teenagers and young adults in south Wales are able to access the specialist care given at the unit.

Stephen said: "Our cycling challenge started out as a bit of a gimmick because of a challenge made by other friends.

"A couple of rides and charity nights later, we've managed to raise more than £5,000 to support local good causes.

"When we were asked by Della Bassett whose son Ashley (18) is currently being treated on the Teenage Cancer Trust Unit in Cardiff, to do a charity ride we couldn't wait to help.

"What's great about the owners, staff and holidaymakers at the Fontygary Caravan Park is that everyone is really supportive and gets behind our charity challenges.

"When they heard about our challenge for Teenage Cancer Trust, they all got on board.

"When you do these challenges for someone you know it makes everyone go the extra mile."

Della Bassett from Bridgend, whose son Ashley is currently receiving treatment at the unit in Cardiff, said: "We chose to support Teenage Cancer Trust because of the help and support Ashley has received since being diagnosed with (ALL) Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia in 2012.

"Ashley, who is now 18, is still being treated and cared for by the specialist team on the unit and is looking forward to receiving his 'all-clear' next year.

"We're right behind Tilly and the team, and appreciate everyone's support and effort on Ashley's behalf."

A spokeswoman for the Trust appealed: "Help us to be there for the teenagers and young adults fighting and living with cancer in Wales.

"Why not take on our 5-4-5 challenge to help us celebrate the fifth anniversary of our unit in Cardiff? We need to raise around £320,000 every year to keep these vital services in place.

"If you would like to support Tilly and Co with their ride please visit send your donation to Fontygary Caravan Park marked 'For the attention of Tilly's Charity Ride'."

To support Teenage Cancer Trust in south Wales, contact Debbie Jones on debbie.jones@teenagecancertrust.org or call 07985 471429.

For more information on the Teenage Cancer Trust, you can visit ***www.teenagecancertrust.org*** *or the Teenage Cancer Trust Wales Facebook Page.*

Lucky winner of farmers' hamper

Mr Stait receives his hamper prize at the Farmers' Market.

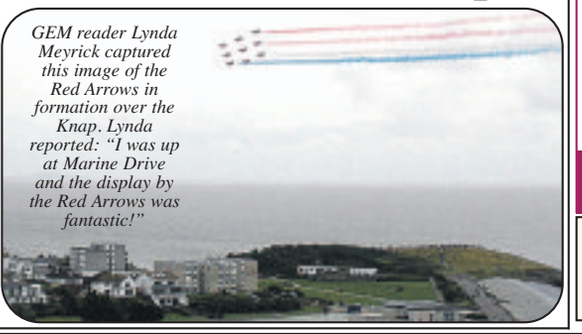
THE free hamper draw that was run in the Vale Farmers' Market Food Court at the Vale of Glamorgan Show in August was won by Mr Doug Stait of Barry.

The hamper, which contained a joint of beef, gammon, jams, cakes, fish, lamb, cheese, salad dressing and flapjacks had a value of over £60. The fantastic local produce was all donated by the market stall holders.

Anne Loam of Tregwilym Produce, the market vice chairman, presented Mr Stait with his hamper at the Cowbridge Farmers' Market last Saturday.

The next markets will be on Saturday, September 20 at Arthur Johns car park, Cowbridge, and Saturday, September 27 at Westbourne School, Penarth.

Reader snaps Red Arrows over Knap



GEM reader Lynda Meyrick captured this image of the Red Arrows in formation over the Knap. Lynda reported: "I was up at Marine Drive and the display by the Red Arrows was fantastic!"

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Red Arrows dazzle over Barry Island

RAF display team, the Red Arrows, dazzled the huge crowds at Barry Island recently as part of the Barry Wartime Weekend event.

Organised by the Barry Tourist Railway, and local history group Barry at War, the event featured displays to show the last 100 years of the area's wartime history.

There were also vintage cars and modern motorbikes for the crowds to enjoy, along with a unique steam train.

Event co-organiser, Ade Pitman of Barry at War, explained: "The Barry Wartime Weekend event traditionally aims to extend the tourist season through Heritage Tourism, which after such a poor bank holiday proved a real boost to the local economy.

"Taking place at the Barry Island Railway Station, and the Hood Road Field at Barry Waterfront, the free community event seeks to educate visitors about their wartime heritage of the region.

"To commemorate the Centenary of the Great War, this year's event featured a large encampment, complete with cavalry unit.

"There was also a 'walking wounded' soldier, escorted by a voluntary aid detachment nurse, who explained that her patient was just one of over 700 wounded soldiers being cared for in one of the five Red Cross hospitals located in Barry during 1917.

"A Second World War American encampment, populated with the famous Jeep, reminded visitors that 70 years ago the Hood Road site was part of a massive American base, which was located there to service the docks.

"Members of the Army Reserve, accompanied by an Army Field Kitchen, which provided 'compo' meals for the living historians and Cadets throughout the event, brought the military display up to the present day.

"To ensure there was something for all the family, the Glamorgan Classic Car Club displayed many vintage cars, while a Great War era steam train ran a shuttle between the two sites."

For more information see the website at www.barryatwar.co.uk or follow the group on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/BarryAtWarHistoryGroup.

Ade and Paul.

QUIZ NIGHT

A QUIZ night is being held in aid of the Tenovus cancer charity at Barry Athletics club, off Paget Road, Barry on September 24, at 7pm for 7.30pm.

Tables of up to six, £6 per person, which will include refreshments.

There will be a raffle, and a bar. Contact Beryl Holmes on 01446 408420, for further information and tickets.

Can you offer passage to a new life to India?

The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find suitable homes for inmates at the Bridgend rehoming centre.

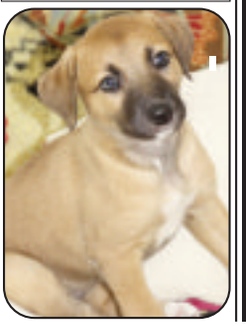
INDIA is a 12-week-old lurcher – a happy and confident puppy who loves to have a fuss made. She is very bright, and does show some typical lurcher behaviour, being quite vocal when playing!

She can live with children over eight years old, as we expect her to become a big, bouncy dog as she grows. She will need continued training and socialisation, and must be taken to a course of puppy training classes, the cost of which is included in the adoption fee.

With the right upbringing, India will make a brilliant addition to the home.

*If you can offer a home to India, please call us on **01656 725219**, or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend. We are open 12pm – 4pm every day except Monday and until 7.30pm on Wednesdays.*

LINDA FEAGAN
Supporter Relations officer,
Dogs Trust Bridgend.



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Beef Stroganoff.
Pork in Cider Gravy.
Chicken Cacciatore.
Vegetable Nut Roast.

Desserts
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Eton Mess.
Forest Fruits Cheesecake.

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Christmas Party Guide

Planning ahead can make a real difference to your Christmas do!

IT'S very difficult to get people to focus on something that is three months distant, but making the effort can make a real difference to that pitfall-strewn celebration that is the 'Christmas do'.

Whether you are planning an office party, a family get-together, or just a festive gathering with friends, making an early decision has a number of advantages.

First, and clearly the most obvious plus point, is that you have a much better chance of booking your first choice if you can come to a prompt agreement.

There's nothing worse than having weeks of increasingly tense meetings and talks which eventually manage to reach a consensus, and then find that the venue is booked up.

This is often the case when it comes to the most established venues that have good word of mouth and a history of keeping the customer satisfied.

Miss out on the first choice and it can be a question of back to square one, and the prospect of more time-consuming discussions.

There is a lot to be said for a small group of trusted individuals taking charge, to ensure an early decision.

The phrase 'too many chefs spoil the broth' is true for more than just cooking!

A second good reason for making an early start to your deliberations is that it will give time for some research.

Even if you have a stream-lined decision-making structure, with one or two trusted people taking care of arrangements – rather than the dreaded 'committee' – making an early start can definitely help.

A visit to a pub or restaurant, just to check out the ambience, can be useful if the organisers have the time, and it gives them a chance to consider other factors – such as how the revellers will get there on a party night, particularly if they want to avoid driving.

One thing that makes things easier for party planners is that here in the Vale, there is a wealth of choice, with venues for any type of Christmas do.

In terms of eating out, standards are high, precisely because of the keen competition that is a result of that choice.

If a dinner dance is the choice, then there are several hotels that offer just that.

If a meal in pleasant surroundings is the aim, then you can find good food everywhere, in a variety of settings, ranging from a traditional pub to a trendy bistro or tapas bar.

A number of places do outside catering, so it is even possible to find your own venue, and then employ a specialist to provide a great culinary experience.

In terms of post-meal entertainment, the Vale is exceptionally well provided.

There are country pubs where you can while away the rest of the evening, perhaps in front of a real fire in the bar.

If the party prefers to move from place to place, then towns such as Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Barry have more than enough venues to keep the revellers happy.

In fact, a bit of research should be able to establish which venues offer regular entertainment.

There is a thriving local music scene and band nights are common.

For those so inclined, finishing off the evening with live music is quite possible, if you plan ahead.

Party organisers can live off the kudos from a successful night for a large part of the following year.

So, no matter what sort of Christmas do you envisage, it is definitely not too early to start looking and booking!

THE Mount Sorrel Hotel

Christmas Party Nights

28th & 29th November; 5th, 12th, 19th & 20th December 2014 - £24.95 per person

(Other dates available on request for a minimum of 60 guests)

CHEFS HOMEMADE CARROT & CORIANDER SOUP
Served with Crusty Bread
PRAWN AND CRAB ROLLED IN A SMOKED SALMON PARCEL
With a Marie Rose dressing
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RIBEYE OF BEEF
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With a Red Onion & Tarragon Glaze
ALL SERVED WITH CHEF'S SELECTION OF FRESH SEASONAL VEGETABLES

Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce
Belgium Chocolate & Raspberry Tart
Cheese & Biscuits

Coffee and Chocolate Mint

Christmas Day Lunch
4 COURSES
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www.fonmoncastle.com
fonmon_castle@msn.com
01446 710206

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3 COURSE MENU

CHRISTMAS DAY 5 COURSE MEAL
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Live a life of adventure with Mari Leijerstam

Double world record holder Maria Leijerstam from the Vale, founder of the Burn Series of multisport events and qualified personal trainer, inspires you with a weekly column on simple family sporting adventures in the beautiful countryside of south Wales. Maria will guide you on how and where in your area you can combine sport and fitness into family fun.

AFTER only 35 minutes of driving from Bonvilston, I found myself, along with my fiancé, at the base of Pen-y-Fan – we'd decided to spend last Saturday afternoon climbing the highest mountain in south Wales.

When we arrived, we were rather surprised to find the mountain sprawling with people who were either out for a Saturday walk, as we were, or taking part in either the Pen-y-Fan challenge for Parkinson's UK or the Ten Peaks Brecon Beacons challenge, which is an 89 kilometre race over the ten highest peaks in south Wales.

As runner after runner overtook us, I felt their exhaustion but sense of pride for having almost completed their incredible challenge. Pen-y-Fan was only to be followed by Cribyn and then Fan-y-Big to complete the full ten peaks challenge.

Many of the participants were military or athletic looking civilians, who had obviously trained for this challenge.

The walkers, however, who were completing either a 6.5 kilometre or 14.5 kilometre loop and also visited the top of Pen-y-Fan, which stands at 886 metres above sea level, really bowled me over.

The grit and determination that I saw on so many faces was fantastic. There were families with youngsters as young as five years old; there were a number of old age pensioners and there were individuals who were battling with their weight but had set themselves this tremendous challenge for a very good cause.

I was struck with admiration for all I passed.

If you've always thought that mountain life and steep hills is only for the super fit, then I urge you to think again. Last weekend was the perfect example where that simply doesn't ring true.

You can take your time and rest three or four times, to just sit and take in the view and when you reach the top, there is nothing better than enjoying a picnic from the summit.

The views and dramatic cliffs are spectacular. Pen-y-Fan is beyond no-one who has the desire to give it a go. Chose a good sunny clear day and let others know where you are going.

Set yourselves a family challenge this weekend and make sure you join me next week for more sport and adventure. In the meantime check out www.burnseries.co.uk.

FOOTNOTE:

This column is provided for idea purposes only. Always check with your doctor if you have any concerns about your health prior to embarking on any form of physical activity and always let someone know where you are going.

The GEM newspaper and Multisport Ltd are not responsible or liable, directly, indirectly or consequentially, for any form of damages whatsoever resulting from the use (or misuse) of information contained in or implied by the column.

Weycock Cross residents' concerns as deadline nears

VALE MP Alun Cairns has met local residents at Weycock Cross to discuss opposing plans to build 200 new houses at Green Farm in Barry.

The Friends of Weycock Cross Group called on local residents to object to the proposals from Taylor Wimpey, after plans were re-submitted by the housebuilder in August, despite local opposition.

Campaigners claim the scheme will impact on local services and traffic flow around a development at Green Farm.

Mr Cairns said: "The local residents have fought very hard to oppose these plans for over two years. Residents are concerned about the looming deadline of September 12 to submit representation.

"The Vale Council must listen to concerns that such a large scale development could have on the local community."

The Old Swan Inn holds beer festival

THE Old Swan Inn in Llantwit Major has announced its last summer beer and cider festival of the season, due to take place from September 12-14.

The historic pub will be playing host to a vast selection of beers and ciders, as well as treating customers to a selection of local musicians.

Proceedings will start at lunchtime on Friday, and culminate on Sunday night.

The list of beers and ciders available includes 12 different ales and ciders, many from Welsh brewers, as well as a large selection of American style craft ales from Crafty Devil and Grey Trees.

The Old Swan Inn's manager, David Moll, said: "As this is our last beer festival of the season, we are expecting a great atmosphere and turnout.

"We've got a big range of beers and ciders on tap from a wide range of different breweries, many of them local!

"This will be a great way for people to enjoy some delicious food and drink in the last of the summer sun, and round off what has been a brilliant summer!"

The pub, which dates back to the 12th century, is just a short walk from the station, which is well-served by trains every hour from Cardiff and Bridgend.

National Trust summer trips

THE Vale of Glamorgan Association of National Trust members and volunteers has had three successful summer trips to Tyntesfield, Lacock and last week on the *Waverley* from Penarth Pier.

The new season of talks starts on September 17 at 7.30pm in The Duke when Sara Szwer is coming to tell us about The Kymin, where she works for The Trust. We plan to arrange a visit there during this coming year, hopefully along with Tredegar House.

New members are always welcome, and we would like to extend a particular welcome to any volunteers from nearby Dyffryn House. Any enquiries to vofgant@gmail.com.

Jane Hydon (*Chair*)

Messy kids 'go wild'!

'GO WILD', the new holiday activity programme at Porthkerry and Cosmeston Lakes Country Parks, has given young people (and their parents) the opportunity to take part in new and exciting wildlife and conservation activities.

Hundreds of children took part over the summer holidays in activities such as messy medieval crafts, rock pool rambles, den and fire building, wicked woodland crafts, nature's art and mammal trapping.

EIN SAIL YW ILLTUD SANT

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6.00pm - 8.00pm
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01446 793301 email: llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
www.llantwitschool.org.uk

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Horses for courses

INTERNATIONAL speakers Jane Myers and her husband Stuart, will address the issues of leisure horses living on farmland, originally intended for cattle and sheep.

They will focus on using the natural and domesticated behaviour of horses, and good land management practices, to create a healthy and sustainable environment for horses and pasture.

No need to book. Contact Rebecca on 07846954051 (evenings 6pm to 8pm).

Join the RNID panel!

CHARITY Action on Hearing Loss Cymru (formerly RNID) is inviting local people who are deaf, have hearing loss, or tinnitus, to join the charity's research panel and help influence its work.

Director of Action on Hearing Loss Cymru, Richard Williams, said: 'We'd be grateful if residents would get involved in our panel, which we hope offers a great opportunity to feed in their first-hand experience of hearing loss and highlight everyday issues that will help shape our future work, supporting people who are deaf or have hearing loss or tinnitus to live their lives to the full.'

For more information, contact www.aohl.org.uk/researchpanel or e-mail panel@hearingloss.org.uk

Free help to reduce global footprint

SUSTAINABLE Wales has been contracted by Renew Wales www.renewwales.org.uk to offer five community groups support to reduce their carbon footprint and help their plans to become more environmentally friendly.

it is one of 30 Renew Wales co-ordinators across Wales, who will help develop a project, and work on an action plan.

Contact www.sustainablewales.org.uk; email mm@sustainablewales.org.uk or telephone 01656 783962.

Come listen to the band at Fonmon

AS regular readers of The GEM may be aware, the Vale of Glamorgan Brass Band are celebrating their 40th anniversary this year.

At the beginning of the year, it was decided that the band should undertake a tour of the Vale.

It has secured sponsorship from two local businesses, A Class Apart from Dinas Powys, who supplied polo shirts and fleeces, and CJ Contract Travel Services Ltd, who provide the band with a vehicle to transport instruments and percussion equipment to concerts.

So far this year, the band has been to Rhoose for the very successful anniversary concert, Penarth for 'Brass in the Park,' also at Penarth Pier and, a little further afield (*well, just outside the Vale!*) to Porthcawl, the Millennium Centre, Cardiff, and to the National Eisteddfod near Llanelli, where they came a creditable fourth in their section.

The band will be back in the Vale to present a concert at Fonmon Castle on Friday, September 19, at 7pm.

Also performing is former member Patsy Hunt, who is a very talented musician and she promises "to bring something different" to the evening!

Tickets, priced at just £5, will be available at the door, or they can be reserved on 07917-796841.

PHIL MAUNDER.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL • CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00940/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of 4 No semi detached single storey dwellings
Location:/Lleoliad: Church Cottage, Aberthin Lane, Aberthin
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Aberthin

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00941/PNT
Proposal:/Cynnig: Installation of 1 x Openreach broadband cabinet (PCP011v2)
Location:/Lleoliad: Outside, 7, High Street, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Cowbridge

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00965/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of 1 no. replacement dwelling
Location:/Lleoliad: Heathcliffe, Clive Crescent, Penarth
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/01017/ADV
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed fascia and projecting sign
Location:/Lleoliad: 16, Windsor Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/01019/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Change of use to Class A3 restaurant, new shopfront and fume extraction ducting together with plant
Location:/Lleoliad: 16, Windsor Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Conservation Area Consent / Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00966/CAC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of 1 no. replacement dwelling
Location:/Lleoliad: Heathcliffe, Clive Crescent, Penarth
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Listed Building Consent/Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00891/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Conversion of existing workshop/former stables to independent dwelling. Minor changes to existing consent already being implemented
Location:/Lleoliad: Cwrt yr Ala House, Michaelston Le Pit
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2014/01021/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Renewal of dilapidated roof covering over rear stage to include the renewal of existing roof light
Location:/Lleoliad: The Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Affecting setting of a Listed Building/ Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00878/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construct oak timber frame garden shed
Location:/Lleoliad: The Lodge, Penllyn, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting The Lodge, Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00932/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: This is a brownfield site; construction of portal framed light industrial and business starter units, creating a small development of units suitable for growing and start up business.
Location:/Lleoliad: Plot 3B, Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry

Application No: /Rhif y cais: 2014/00933/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Development of 13 affordable homes, access arrangements and associated works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at Pentre Meyrick, Pentre Meyrick

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00952/RG3
Proposal:/Cynnig: Erection of new two storey primary school building with associated playground, lighting, sprinkler tank and landscaping
Location:/Lleoliad: Oakfield Primary School, Gibbonsdown, Barry

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00995/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Change of use of agricultural land to residential development (C3) including demolition of a disused building and the development of 64 residential dwellings, public open space, landscaping, highway improvements and associated engineering works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land adjacent to Llantwit Major Bypass, Boverton

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/01002/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Extend and refurbish the single storey flat roof building to the west of the Appliance Bay to provide new modern facilities to meet SWFRS requirements; existing appliance bays and dormitories to be refurbished and upgraded; general upgrades to forecourt and service yard to meet SWFRS requirements; existing Training Tower to be cleaned and upgraded with new doors, roof and lighting; inclusion of Temporary Accommodation to the rear of the site for 8 - 9 months during construction and refurbishment works of the existing Fire Station
Location:/Lleoliad: South Wales Fire & Rescue Service, Fire Station, Hazel Road, Penarth

May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00954/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construction of 1.5 storey dwelling (outline planning permission 2012/00027/OUT)
Location:/Lleoliad: Land adjacent to Evenlode School, Robinswood Crescent, Penarth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00978/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed demolition of existing and construction of a new build house
Location:/Lleoliad: Little Pen Onn, Llancarfan

Application No: /Rhif y cais: 2014/00995/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Change of use of agricultural land to residential development (C3) including demolition of a disused building and the development of 64 residential dwellings, public open space, landscaping, highway improvements and associated engineering works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land adjacent to Llantwit Major Bypass, Boverton

Departure from Development Plan/ Gwyro o'r Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00933/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Development of 13 affordable homes, access arrangements and associated works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at Pentre Meyrick, Pentre Meyrick

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2014/00995/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Change of use of agricultural land to residential development (C3) including demolition of a disused building and the development of 64 residential dwellings, public open space, landscaping, highway improvements and associated engineering works
Location:/Lleoliad: Land adjacent to Llantwit Major Bypass, Boverton

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Dated / Dyddiedig: 11th September, 2014

M. Goldsworthy
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

PACT meetings

***PLYMOUTH PACT**, Byrd Crescent Community Hall Centre, Penarth, on September 11 at 7pm.*

***LLANDOUGH PACT,** The Royal British Legion, Lalndough, on September 15 at 7pm.*

***CADÖC PACT**, Palmerston Community and Learning Centre on September 18 at 6pm.*

***SULLY PACT**, The Cricket Pavilion on September 18 at 7pm.*

***DYFAN PACT**, Highlight Park Comunity Centre on September 29 at 7.45pm.*

***RHOOSE coffee and chat**, at the Fox and Hounds pub*lic house, Llancarfan, on September 30 at 11am.

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RICS

Mixed start to the season for Barry's rugby teams

BARRY 2nd XV opened their league season, with St Peters their visitors.

Coach Rhidian Scott handed a debut to Welsh sprinter Rhys Knapman on the wing, and there were also recalls for Maltese international John Dimond at scrum-half, and Jason Evans and Sebastian Vidal on the replacements bench.

Under clear blue summer skies, Barry began the game expecting to be dictating the tempo, but instead found themselves behind on virtually the first play of the game. A clearing kick was charged down by the chasing St Peters backline, and the result was an unconverted try.

The side clearly showed signs of rustiness that was to be expected in their first game of the season, and it was an unfamiliar back-line with players being drafted in from the 3rd XV at the last minute.

Tomos Perry and David Williams did strike a good partnership in midfield, but too often moves broke down in promising areas and the chances butchered.

At halftime Scott made ruthless changes and the second half saw a much better display by the 2nd XV. Their pressure finally told as St Peters' defence relented, and tries were scored by Perry (2), Knapman and the substitute Evans. Corrigan was able to convert two out of four, and the side earned a precious bonus point win at the first time of asking, the final score 24-8.

The 2nd XV will hope to build on this success in their next game. They have a weekend off as they receive a bye in the preliminary round of the East District Cup (after their heroics in reaching the final last season), and will return to league action at home to Cardiff Quins on September 20.

Team: Hamonda; Knapman, Perry, Williams, M Jones; Corrigan, Dimond; Thomas, Sion Vidal, Lundy; McTavish, Flynn; L Jones ©, Case, Giddings. Replacements: Corne, Evans, Seb Vidal. Man-of-the-match: Perry.

BARRY 3RD XV 12
SULLY SPORTS 2ND XV 42

Managerless Barry 3rd XV went into their first league game, a local derby against Sully Sports, in more hope than expectation.

The side's preparations appeared doomed from the beginning, as many of their key players were promoted to the other two senior teams after a string of withdrawals.

After two more players failed to appear at kick off, caretaker manager Ken Chow was forced to juggle his resources, handing debuts to Michael van Birgelen, Nathan Harris and James Clements, while also recalling Jon Morris for his first game for the club in five years, and moving himself to the unfamiliar position of full back.

As expected the visitors dominated proceedings with a heavier and more experienced pack. Barry defended doggedly though, and despite Sully being camped on their line for long periods of the game, they managed to keep the Sully attack out for the first quarter.

The pressure, however, finally told when the visitors' scrum turned the screw to set up a close range converted try and took a deserved lead.

Chow and captain Lloyd Jones rallied the troops and after soaking up more Sully pressure, Barry came forward with some intent, with Dave Evans, Liam Ring, Jon Morris and Kyle Barclay in the forefront carrying the ball, forcing them to concede a series of penalties.

Ashley Forrester's boot was as accurate as ever, and he slotted over three penalties in succession just before halftime to send the home side into the lead at the interval.

With fresh substitutes to bring on and a large away following, Sully Sports regathered the momentum after the break to score another converted try after prolonged pressure.

Barry struck back soon after with a close range penalty from centre Dave Evans to bring the score to 12-14.

With the game still in the balance, Barry suddenly found themselves down to 14 men, as both Josh Westall and Lloyd Jones limped off with injuries – James Sullivan was the only replacement available.

Sully Sports utilised their numerical advantage as they increased their lead with another try. Chow, now having taken over the captain's armband as well as scrum-half duties, tried to stem the tide by bringing Harris into the pack but his attempts proved futile.

The visitors finished the game by exploiting the exhaustion and lack of experience of the 14 men to earn a bonus point.

Despite the defeat, the Barry players could leave the pitch with their heads held high as they fought right to the end, even when the result was academic.

Barry 3rd XV will hope to have most of their key players back in order to field a full squad for their next league encounter at home to Taffs Well on September 27.

Team: Chow; Rees, Evans, van Birgelen, Harris; Bailey, Forrester; Hall, Ring, Clements; Westall, Thomas; Morris, Jones ©, Barclay. Replacements: Sullivan. Man-of-the-match: Morris.

KC

Defeat sees the Centurions fall into the relegation mire

SULLY CENTURIONS' 1st XI travelled to Creigiau in a crunch relegation fixture.

The home side batted first and the opening pair of Taylor and Moore put on 130 for the first wicket. Moore, who went on to make 100, was the mainstay of the Creigiau innings, although most of the top order chipped in with runs, helping to push the score along to an impressive 256 for 6 at the end of the 50 overs.

Pick of the Centurions bowlers was Shae Ellis, who posted figures of 3 for 36.

In reply, of the top order batsmen, only Jake Griffett (36) got to grips with the attack as three wickets went down very quickly.

Young Adam Sylvester hit a nice 29, with skipper Lloyd Bruce (26) and Nick Jones (20) being Centurions' other significant scorers. But Martin, with 4 for 36, and Innes (2 for 21) did most of the damage, as Centurions' innings ended on 189 all out.

The 2nd XI hosted Creigiau in the penultimate league match of the season, with both sides looking for points to steer them to safety.

The visitors batted first and had reached 15 when Hughes was bowled by Lewis Doel for 5. The same bowler accounted for Rhys Powell for 3, thanks to a smart catch by 'keeper Lewis Pyke, with just 24 on the board. The prize wicket of skipper Thomas (who had plundered 80 in the previous match between the two sides) also went to Doel, but the plaudits went to Mark Burnett for a wonderful catch.

This left Creigiau on 52 for 3. Wickets began to fall regularly, with two for just 10 runs for Emma Davies. The first of these was down to a fantastic diving slip catch by Tom Pascoe to dismiss John for 1; Ricky Griffett chipped in with 2 for 25.

This, plus the comical run out of Gareth Powell with the score on 105 for 9, left the visitors looking at a very low score. But Angell (15 not out) and Galea (30 not out) put on 42 for the final wicket, much to Sully's frustration.

The Centurion innings got off to a slow start and it had taken 17 overs to reach 40. Then two wickets in as many overs slanted the game in Creigiau's favour. Skipper Dave Sylvester (4) and opening partner Tom Pascoe (14) were both back in the hutch with the score on 48.

This brought Griffett to the crease and he played a faultless innings, timing the ball to perfection and eventually steered Sully to victory with a marvelous 101 not out. This was a fine innings that deservedly won the match for Centurions.

Now it all goes down to the wire with next week's match against Rogerstone being another one that Centurions must win.

MF

DINAS' WOLVES SHOW BITE

SLOW starters Dinas Wolves under-12s managed to spread the ball wide and fast early on in this derby match, causing Dinas Real problems on each flank.

An early penalty converted by Saunders settled the nerves before he added his second; Hewitson then showed his quality with number three.

Wolves then started to knock the ball around going from front to back and side to side. Further goals from Saunders, Hewitson, Pereria and Booker gave the Dinas Wolves team a comfortable lead.

In the second half Real's rearguard were in a stubborn mood - Couch in goals was in no mood to concede as he pulled off save after save. Real tried to play out and to their credit were always looking to pass out and play.

Swapping positions around saw Frost get on the scoresheet in a more advanced role as he slotted home. Doughty added another soon after before Hewitson grabbed a couple more.

Fifield, Quest, Booker and Lewis all looked comfortable on the ball, Williams, Moss and Mallum certainly weren't going to concede and Morris looked very impressive playing a very high line between the sticks.

As both sets of players knew each other so well the game was played in a very much friendly spirit. Players joking and laughing at missed chances and generally showing a lot of respect for each other.

A big thank you to Mark Harvey for organising the referee, the lads certainly appreciated it and learnt so much having a proper official in the middle. Man of the match was awarded Zac Fifield.

LS

The Saints upstage the Cossacks

BARRY Saints produced a great team performance to dismantle a feisty Cardiff Cossacks.

Saints found themselves 1-0 up after Nathan Williams headed the ball against the crossbar with David Evans sliding the rebound across the box for Darren Townsend to steer the ball into the back of the net.

Townsend got his second with an accurate finish into the bottom corner after a beautiful pass by David Evans. A free kick from the halfway line again by Evans was whipped in where Williams controlled the ball beautifully before smashing a half-volley into the goal.

As Cossacks pressed, Saints took them apart with crisp passing football with the defenders starting the move, working the ball into the creative Evans who squared the ball with Townsend finishing off the post with a powerful effort.

Saints continued to press in the second half and were rewarded when Williams finished off another lovely passing move which started from the back, the ball hitting the post before crossing the line.

Townsend with his usual unselfish play turned provider, squaring the ball from the left hand side for Williams to grab another and a carbon copy from the right hand side allowing Cummings to add another.

David Evans scored from the penalty spot after Cummings was bundled over in the box. Cossacks pulled a goal back from a deflected long range effort, but Williams grabbed his fourth with another low finish before Cossacks added a second from a corner.

Williams finished the scoring, converting from another Townsend cross. The match ended on a bad note for the opposition as a Cossacks player decided to take out his frustrations on a Saints winger and received his marching orders, but the Saints looked in good shape and back to their best.

The Saints are looking for a sponsor; anyone wishing to support the club should e-mail glong147@yahoo.co.uk.

GL

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

(A4226, PORT ROAD (WEST) (PART)AND PORTHKERRY ROAD (PART) RHOOSE AMENDMENT TO EXISTING 50MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) ORDER 2014

1. On the 5th September 2014, The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and of all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described below.

2. The Order will come into operation on the 15th September 2014 or on the date that the appropriate signs are in place whichever is the later and a copy of the Order and a plan showing the affected area may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.

3. If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirements of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order you may within six weeks from 15th September 2014 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE

Amend schedule 2 of the following Order:

The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Port Road (West) A4226 Barry Extension to 40mph speed restriction and new 50mph speed restriction order 2008).

From:

"**A4226 and Port Road West**, no person shall cause a vehicle to travel at a speed greater than 50mph from a point approximately 600 metres west of Waycock Cross roundabout to the Airport cargo entrance roundabout, a distance of approximately 2,300 metres".

To read:

"**A4226, Port Road West (part) and Porthkerry Road (part)**, no person shall cause a vehicle to travel at a speed greater than 50mph from a point 600 metres west of Waycock Cross roundabout, to a point 67 metres east of Pentir Y De and Porthkerry Road roundabout, a distance of approximately 3,800 metres".

Dated this 11th day of September 2014

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2014

NEWID CYFYNGIAD CYFLYMDRA 50 M.Y.A. (A4226, PORT ROAD WEST RHAN YN UNIG) / PORTHKERRY ROAD (RHAN YN UNIG) Y RHWS)

1. Ar 5 Medi 2014, yr oedd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau dan adran 84 Deddf Rheoli Traffig Ffyrdd (ddiwygiedig) a phob pŵer galluogi arall, wedi gwneud Gorchymyn l'r diben cyffredinol a ddisgrifiwyd isod.

2. Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 15 Medi 2014, neu ar y dyddiad y bydd yr arwyddion priodol i gyd yn eu lle. Cewch weld y Gorchymyn a chynllun sy'n dangos yr ardal dan sylw, yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

3. Os hoffech ddadlau'n erbyn dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu'i ddarpariaethau am na chredwch fod gan y ddeddf uchod bŵer i'w gweithredu, neu am na theimlwch eu bod yn cydymffurfio â gofynion y ddeddf neu offeryn a wnaethpwyd o dani, bydd gennych chwe wythnos o 15 Medi 2014 i wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys i'r diben hwnnw.

ATODLEN

Newidier Atodlen 2 y Gorchymyn canlynol:

Gorchymyn ymestyn cyfyngiad cyflymdra i 40 m.y.a. a chyflwyno cyfyngiad cyflymdra newydd 50 m.y.a. (A4226, Port Road West) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2008.

o:

"**A4226, Port Road West**, ni fydd neb yn gyrru cerbyd yn gyflymach na 50 m.y.a. rhwng man sydd ryw 600 medr i'r gorllewin o gylchfan Waycock Cross a chylchfan mynedfa Iwythi'r maes awyr, sef pellter o ryw 2,300 medr i gyd".

i:

"**A4226, Port Road West (rhan yn unig) a Porthkerry Road (rhan yn unig)**, ni fydd neb yn gyrru cerbyd yn gyflymach na 50 m.y.a. rhwng man sydd ryw 600 medr i'r gorllewin o gylchfan Waycock Cross a man 67 medr i'r dwyrain o gylchfan Pentir y De a Porthkerry Road, sef pellter o ryw 3,800 medr i gyd".

Dyddiedig 11 Medi 2014

M. E. Punter
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern,

I, **Stephen Case**, do hereby give notice that I have applied to The Licensing Authority (Vale of Glamorgan Council) for the variation to Premises Licence at **Habana's Bar & Grill, 80-81 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX.**

This to include:

Late night refreshment and regulated entertainment Sun-Wed 12.00-00.01 Thurs-Sun 12.00-03.01.

The retail sale of alcohol Sun-Wed 7.00-00.01; Thurs-Sun 07.00-03.01

Opening hours: Sun-Wed 07.00-00.30; Thurs-Sun 07.00-03.30.

Plus non-standard timings applied.

Any person(s) wishing to make representations to this application may do so in writing to the **Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU,** not later than 28 days after the date of this notice (as below). Representation received after this date will not be considered.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make false statements in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.

Date 03/09/14

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice is hereby given that an application was made to the Vale of Glamorgan Council for a premises licence under the above Act on the 3rd September 2014. Applicant: D K Forecourts Ltd. Address of premises: Spar Convenience Store, Cardiff Road Service Station, Cardiff Road, Barry, CF63 2BE. Proposed licensable activities: Sale of Alcohol for consumption off the premises and the provision of Late Night Refreshment. Proposed days and hours of licensable activity: Every Day Alcohol Sales 00.00 to 24.00; Late Night Refreshment 23.00 to 05.00. The postal address of the Licensing Authority where the register is kept and the application may be inspected is: *Vale of Glamorgan Council, Licensing Team, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU. Any person wishing to make representations on this matter shall give notice, in writing, stating the nature and grounds for making such representations to The Licensing Officer at the above address* within 28 days of the date of this notice – by the 1st October 2014. Further information is available on the web site www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk following the links.

It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application and the maximum fine on summary conviction of such an offence is £5000.

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Public Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern: I, **Robert Bryan Beattie,** do hereby give notice of an application to the Licensing Authority, Vale of Glamorgan Council for the grant of a new premises licence at the address:

Beagles Country Store, 3 WIllow Walk, Old Masons Yard, Cowbridge CF71 7EE.

This to include the retail sale of alcohol Mon-Sun 08.00-23.00; opening hours Mon-Sun 08.00-23.00.

Any person wishing to make representations to this application may do so by writing to Vale of Glamorgan Council Licensing Department, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU not later than 28 days after the date of this notice (as below).

Representations received after this date will not be considered.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.

Date: 04/09/14

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Great sentimental value. If found please ring the Turners on 01446 792515.

Family Notices

JONES
David Ieuan Lloyd (Dil)

Passed away peacefully after a long illness on 6 September, Dil of Barry. Beloved husband of Dilys. Loving father to Debbie and Cheryl and devoted Pops to Tom and Rosy. Dil will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son funeral home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral on Monday, 15 September. Service and committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry where family and friends please meet at 12 noon.

Family flowers only, if desired, donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Alzheimer's research.

Richards-Stanley
Kenneth (Ken)

Passed away suddenly on September 2, 2014 at Y Bwthyn Newydd, Bridgend. Ken will be sadly missed by his devoted wife June of 56 years, daughters Julie and Lynne, son-in-law Philip, grandchildren Rhiannon, Caitlin and in-laws Jean and Pat, and all his friends and family.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College St, Llantwit Major until his service and cremation at Coychurch Crematorium on Tuesday, 16 September at 1.45pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired may be made to Y Bwthyn Newydd c/o the Funeral Director (cheques only).

PHILLIPS
Helen Rhian

Peacefully on September 6 at Holme Tower Marie Curie Centre, Penarth, Helen of Ystradowen (nee Thomas of Pengelli Farm, Pendoylan), dearly loved wife of Nicholas, devoted mother of Alys and Isabel, loving daughter of Brenda and Jeff Thomas.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday September 19, service and interment 2.30pm in Ystradowen Church, near Cowbridge. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Velindre Hospital or Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

JAMES LLYN JOHN MBE

Sue, John and family would like to thank everyone for their kindness and sympathy following the recent death of Llyn. Thank you to all at Milsom House Nursing Home for the dignified way they cared for him and them in his final days.

Many thanks to everyone who attended the funeral, to St Athan Golf Club for their involvement and to Rachael for making the service so personal to him. A special thank you to those who travelled many miles to attend and to Leanne for providing a feast after.

Moller
Lisa

Goodnight darling,
Sleep tight.
I'll miss you forever.
Always your ever loving Nan x

The GEM
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THOMAS
Gladys Rosemary

Peacefully on September 1 at her home in Llantwit Major, Glad (Teddy), beloved wife of Austin formerly of Bonvilston, dearly loved mother of Brett, Diane and Mike, much loved grandmother and great-grandmother.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Wednesday September 17, service 1.45pm at Gileston Church followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 3.15pm.

No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Ty Hafan c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

BERYL HOPKIN

The family would like to thank everyone for the many cards, beautiful flowers and support, for those who attended and those who travelled many miles to be with them for the funeral. Thanks also to those who were unable to attend but who sent their kind wishes.

Many thanks to Reverend David Boult for officiating the service. We greatly appreciate the support and friendship that has been given to Beryl since losing Hoppy. A special thank you for the impeccable care and kindness given to Beryl by everyone during her last few years at **The Manor House St Hilary** and the professionalism and sensitivity shown by **Funeral Directors William James & Son.**

BROADBENT
Betty (nee Norman)

Very peacefully on September 1st in hospital, Betty, aged 86 years of Barry, formerly Sully. Beloved wife of the late Harry, much loved mum to Philip. Grandmother to Anthony, Lisa, Nadine and Philip. Greatly missed by her great grandchildren, Francine and her family.

Resting at James Summers & Son, Lavernock Court, Penarth until the service in the funeral home on Tuesday, September 16th at 9.30am; afterwards to Penarth Cemetery. Family flowers only please, if wished donations to Alzheimers Society c/o the funeral home.

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Birthdays

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lots of love,
from all your family and friends xxx

Happy 65th Birthday
Christopher Alun Punter
on 14 September
Have a wonderful time.
We all love you.
Laraine, Brian, Elaine, Alfie, Miles & Nat, Sue & Sid, Mary & all your family & friends. XXX

Louise Edwards
Hope you enjoyed your 50th birthday in Marjorca.

8th September
Looking forward to the Oscars.
Love from us all Mum xxx

A very big Happy 16th Birthday

LUCAS EDWARDS

on 17 September
We are so proud of you son, you are growing up a very special young man & good luck in your final IGCSE year.
Lots of love always Mum, Dad & Seren xxx
(Lacie, Sammy, Dede & Teddy xxx)

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THANK YOU
Mrs Kathleen Aspinall
I would like to thank all my children for all they did for me on my 80th Birthday, especially my Robert and Kerry.
Thanks to all my grandchildren, also my family and friends for such a wonderful evening.
I love you all. xxx

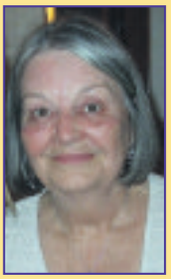
Birth Notices

Imogen Violet Ruiz
Born 06.09.14 7lb 14oz
Congratulations to Katie & James on the safe arrival of our beautiful First Grandaughter

A long awaited sister for Spencer and Joel, the best biggest brothers in the world!
All our love to you all, Mum, Dad, Grandma & Grampy xxxxx

Retirement

Happy Retirement
Judith Savory!
All the staff at Porthkerry Dental Centre would like to wish 'Jude' a very happy retirement.



She has been a cornerstone of the Practice since Dr Owain Joynson became Principal in 2003, and with his predecessor Mr Stuart Livingstone before that.

Through the years, Jude has been responsible for helping with the smooth running of not only the Practice, but of the patients' overall experience of their dental care.

Her thoughtful and caring style of patient and staff welfare have helped us become a big happy family and a successful Practice, and she will be greatly missed.

Anniversaries

Golden Wedding

Congratulations to
Jeff & Barbara Lewis
who celebrate 50 years of marriage on 19th September

Married in St. Mark's Church, Pontypridd, they celebrated their anniversary with their children & grandchildren in Majorca.
With our love & congratulations from Debra, Richard & Jake, and Kevin, Lisa, Neve & Grace xxx

50th Wedding Anniversary

ichard & Barbara Jones (Nee Johnson)
Married in St Mary's Church, Barry on 12th September 1964.
Thank you for all the memories and happy years. Lots of love
Richard xxx

Golfers pay tribute to Colin Jones

THE Colin Jones Memorial day was played at Brynhill Golf Club recently in memory of one of our most loved members

The club has even named our sports bar in memory of him.

The day was superb with members from all over the country coming to play and enjoy what turned out to be an amazing day played in great spirit. A thank you to our head greenkeeper in getting the course in great shape to play this day.

All prizes were presented by Jodi Winter, Colin's partner, and Claire Jones, Colin's daughter.

Winners were: Liam O'Flaherty (non-members winner), Julie Harkin (ladies winner) and Lee Price (men's winner).

CS

OTHER RESULTS

August 5 - four ball better ball, winners Jan Robertson and Robbie Lee 46 pts over back 9 from Judy Davies and Alma Shepard.

August 19, Daily Mail trophy, winners Glynis Gould and Margaret Cod 72 nett, runners-up Julie Harkin and Maria Gentile 73 nett.

August 26, Waterford Crystal, silver Shirley Lewis 37 pts, runner-up Linda Hewlett 35 pts; bronze Margaret Codd 33 pts, runner-up Glynis Gould- 32 pts.

September 2, Millennium Plate, winner Shirley Lewis 37 pts, runner-up Sue Holland 35 pts.

Superbowl plate Robbie Lee, runner-up Judy Davies; Parkstone, Liz Brown, runner-up Helena Coombes; Foursomes knock-out Maria Gentile and Julie Harkin, runners-up Sue Holland and Helena Coombes.

CH

GARETH BALE-S OUT WALES!

WALES' Euro 2016 qualifying campaign kicked off on Tuesday night with a hard-fought win over Andorra, with that man Gareth Bale yet again dragging the team to a win that puts the Welsh onto the front foot in their group.

Playing on a 3G pitch that seemed unsuitable for amateur football, let alone a qualifying game, Wales fell behind after only six minutes when Neil Taylor was harshly judged to have dragged down an Andorran attacker in the box.

The converted penalty was Andorra's first competitive goal in four years, and with an emphasis even at that early stage, on defending their lead, Wales found it difficult to get back into the game.

Bale's header from Ben Davies's inch-perfect cross got the team back on a level footing in the 22nd minute, but all too often after that the Welsh were undone by a lack of accurancy (hardly surprising given the quality of the pitch), poor performances from the likes of Aaron Ramsey and playing a formation which ill-suited them.

Bale's magical free kick in the 82nd minute gave Wales the lead, and the win, finally, but better performances will be needed in next month's back-to-back home games with Bosnia and Cyprus.

GARETH JAMIESON

BARRY EMERGE VICTORIOUS IN GAME WITH RISCA

AFTER Barry's 8-0 victory away at Splott Albion, they went into this game against Risca United with high expectations.

Barry's opponents, who came up with them last season, rested one place below them in the table; could Barry continue their unbeaten run at a sun blessed Jenner Park?

Barry got off to a bad start against the visitors and were punished when Risca's David Healy scored from superb cross in the eighth minute.

Barry soon bounced back to top form and pressurised the Risca defence. They were awarded a free kick in the 14th minute which got them the equalizer through Rhys Evans.

Barry kept attacking and within 10 minutes, Curtis Hudson scored, making it 2-1 at halftime.

Throughout the second half Barry had all the possession. Curtis Hudson had a great second half but the Risca defence just stopped him getting the ball in the back of the net.

Five minuted before the end, Risca's Ethen Shire got a straight red card; the recipient of his tackle, Michael Hartley, will unfortunately now miss Barry's game against Merthyr Tydfil in the cup.

With 10 points from 4 games, Barry retained their unbeaten run, now lying third in the league - can they push for promotion at the end of the season?

JH

Rhoose FC maintain good start

RHOOSE FC's good start to the season continued apace with an emphatic 3-0 away win against Treharris Athletic on Saturday, taking their unbeaten run to five matches.

The Vale side's high tempo, slick passing game seemed to surprise the home side and Rhoose soon took the initiative with some fluid moves down both flanks. Michael Osbourn went close with a fine header following an excellent run from Nathan White down the left.

Rhoose inevitably went ahead on the half hour mark with a speculative, low 22 yard shot from ace marksman Nicky Davison that evaded the Treharris 'keeper.

They doubled their lead soon after when Drew Fahiya finished another slick move down the left hand side, again following good work from man of the match Nathan White.

The second half on balance, saw the home side start to take the initiative, but Rhoose absorbed all Treharris could throw at them and went further ahead with a brilliant finish from Nathan White following a break from defence that saw an excellent defensive interception from Martyn Giles and fine approach work from matchmaker Jacob Daley.

Rhoose travel to Port Talbot on Saturday for a tough Welsh Cup qualifying round 2 encounter with South Wales Amateur League highflyers Trefelin.

AP

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Hard work pays off for Dinas youngsters

THE young under-12s from Dinas Powys FC have worked tirelessly on shape and formations all summer.

Sometimes boring for young players, but the boys always took it on board with the right attitude.

On Saturday the hard work showed it had paid off scoring over 10 goals with no reply against Llantwit Major.

The team rolled up in their new tracksuits ready for action, after a team talk and new kit handed out, the lads were ready for action.

The first half saw Morris have very little to do but anytime he was called into action he started the play off from the back. Frost, Williams, Mossey and Mallum always offered to play from the back.

The lads in midfield looked very comfortable on the ball as Lewis, Doughty, Fifield and O'Brien bossed the middle. Quest, Booker and Perriea showed how to work the flanks, while the goal machines Hewitson and Saunders gave the Vale side a lesson in finishing.

A very pleasing start to junior football and again the parents were a credit.

Scorers: Hewitson (7), Saunders (5), Pereira, Doughty. Man of the match - Robson Mallum. **LS**

Dinas ladies start with win

ON a bright warm sunny afternoon Dinas Powys ladies started their season off with a bang against Sully, winning 5-3.

Nao, H Beddoe and Ellen Phillips had great chances to open the scoring as they were all clean through with only the Sully keeper to beat, but credit to the visiting keeper she stood strong.

Sully then took the lead totally against the run of play after poking home a scrappy goal from a corner. Changes were made and Dinas got their passing game from the back working, feeding the front girls with quality balls.

Sully decided to play a highline which allowed Dinas to get in behind, and after Ellen was brought down in the box skipper Emma Bridgeman slotted the pen home. Sully had a few chances but the back three coped with the long balls very well. As half time approached Nao again exposed the Sully defence and slotted home from a tight angle.

The second half saw the home side fly out of the blocks as Sam Saunders fed Nao to add number three minutes after the restart. The game then went end to end and Sully were piling on the pressure.

Sully then had a somewhat dubious free kick on the edge of the box, which the Sully midfielder slotted home. The next goal was vital and the home side continued to play out using their back three to build up.

Sully hit the wood work with a pile driver but the home side were in no mood to let this lead slip. Tracey White proved a big strength in the middle as Jo Jones and Saunders looked to feed the strikers with through balls. Ellen Phillips scored a top class goal to stretch the lead, latching on to a Nao pass.

As the impressive White and Lewis left the pitch an injection of pace was added in Brook Howell and Molly Chapman. Molly certainly made an impression on her debut as she out ran the fullback and, following a brave challenge from the home keeper, slotted home the fifth.

With only a few minutes remaining Sully scored their third from a similar free kick giving the talented Harold no chance.

Player of the match on her home debut was Leanne Pattemore. **LS**

'INTER' THE UNKNOWN FOR YOUNGSTERS!

BARRY Inter AFC under-12s faced Pontprennau Pumas in their very first Cardiff and District league, and it truly was a game of the proverbial two halves.

The first was filled with end to end action and mistakes on both sides. Inter went straight at them and were rewarded with a first minute goal, credited to Iestyn, but Pumas equalised and that set the tone.

Inter struck again with a Jacob goal only to see that cancelled out with another Puma goal. They then struck again, but Rory and James saw out the half with a goal apiece.

In the second half, quality defending by Josh, Aaron, Lloyd and Charlie, and Sion as sub, along with top goalkeeping from Connor, made sure the second half was a total shut out, with further goals for Inter coming from the pacey Owen and Eski.

The game was played with good spirit and at times there really wasn't much to chose between these two sides. Thanks to Pontprennau Pumas for a smashing game. Also a big thank you to the referee Adrian for doing a sterling job and to David for coaching and also to Jeremy Neale, our secretary, for taking us forward and forming this side.

Squad: C.Denbury, J.Penikett, L.Chick, C.Tonna, A.Heathfield, M.Guthrie, J.Thomas, I.Neale, I.Escott, S.Cule, O.Edwards, J.Penikett, J.Chapman, R.Turner- Robinson.

DD

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Rhoose Lifeguards Nipper team finish season on a high

Rhoose Nippers

The Masters team.

CONGRATULATIONS to the the Nipper team from Rhoose Lifeguards who won the Pen-y-bont surf lifesaving carnival recently.

The team have had a very successful summer season and winning the last beach and sea competition of the year is a great way to finish! This is also the last Nipper competition for Oliver Wong, Helen Jenkins and Declan Ewington who move up to the junior age group next year. A big thank you to the three Nippers for all of your efforts with the team.

In the meantime, the club may have found themselves a new mascot for next year (*see picture on right*)!

RHOOSE LIFEGUARDS COMPETE AT GB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Masters, Junior and Nipper teams from Rhoose Lifeguards recently competed at the British Surf Lifesaving Championships at Exmouth.

With good weather and calm sea conditions during the week of events, the competitors and their families had a very enjoyable time.

Starting the week of competition, the Masters team comprising Karen O'Donoghue-Harris, Melissa Downton, Michele Wall, Jamie Downton, Rob Salter, Darron Cordon, Andy Wall and Richard Davidson all put in impressive displays in the beach and sea events. Congratulations to individual GB Champions Karen and Darron.

Following the Masters, the Junior team began their two day competition.

The team, managed by Steve Baker again put in some excellent performances against some tough competition in the individual and team events.

Well done to all of the competitors with special congratulations to Kelsea and Ellie Peterson, who won medals in their individual events.

Lastly, the Nipper team, led by Nipper co-ordinator Liz Wong, started their two-day campaign. Again with the weather on their side and great support from family and friends, the Nippers achieved some very respectable positions in the team and relay events.

With some of the Nippers having never competed at national championship level, all put in a great effort and should be very proud of their achievements over the two days.

Well done the GB champion Evie Wong for winning gold in a number of her individual events.

All teams did particularly well given the high level of competition, with the Masters team finishing their competition in eight place, the Juniors 10th and the Nippers 12th.

A full list of individual event medal winners is as follows:

Masters: Karen O'Donoghue-Harris – Gold board race, Gold ski race, Gold Oceanwoman, Gold beach flags, Melissa Downton – Silver beach sprint, Silver 1km run, Bronze board race, Bronze ski race, Darron Cordon – Gold surf swim, Bronze Oceanman, Richard Davidson – Bronze surf swim, Rob Salter – Bronze 1km run.

Juniors: Kelsea Peterson – Silver ski race, Silver beach flags, Ellie Peterson – Silver beach flags.

Nippers: Evie Wong – Gold 1km run, Gold beach flags, Gold beach sprint, Bronze surf race, Gwenno Goode – Bronze 1km run.

Many more medals were also won in the beach and sea relays.

Junior Team: Kelsea Peterson, Ellie Peterson, Sara Phillips, Georgia Wall, Jason Grice, Alex Parry, Tomos Wilshaw, Dyfan Goode, Declan Ewington.

Nipper Team: Ellie Bryan, Robert Grice, Matthew Sims, Xantia Hobrough, Elena Gibson, Gwenno Goode, Katie Sims, Evie Wong, Ella Bulmer, Elloise Strange, Ben Ewington, Jamie Jenkins, Emily Parker, Lisa Grice, Kiera Harris, Brooke Peterson, Ethan Wall, Morgan Jenkins, Oliver Wong, Declan Ewington, Taran Downton, Talia Downton.

JF

The new mascot!

Declan, Helen and Ollie.

LLANTWIT YOUTH MAKE THEIR BOW

AFTER three years without a youth set up, Llantwit Major RFC welcomed local rivals Barry to The Rec for their first outing of the new season.

The home team were welcomed to the senior section of the club by vice-chair Tim Jones before the game. The development of the youth side has taken several years of hard work by the junior coaching team and the players themselves.

The game opened with the home side having the better of the opening exchanges, particuarly in the contact area where good recycling by the forwards was giving the backs fast, front foot ball to make holes in the shaken Barry defence.

Barry resorted to killing the ball to try to slow the attack down, only to incur the wrath of the referee who awarded Llantwit a penalty just outside the 22. However, the usually reliable Llantwit kicker Iestyn Jones missed the shot at goal.

Despite this early setback, the home side continued to pile on the pressure and once again the visitors conceded a penalty; this time Jones found the target.

As often happens, the side that takes the lead switches off from the restart and this was certainly true of Llantwit, who failed to deal with the kick off and instantly found themselves leaking a converted try.

Both sides tried to play some expansive rugby for the rest of the first half. Barry began to gain some dominance but Llantwit had a couple of excellent try-scoring opportunities which some poor decision making squandered. Barry added two further unconverted to ease to a 17-3 lead at halftime.

The second half opened much as the first had finished – with the Llantwit boys having to defend their lines. The new centre pairing of Joe Bunt and Joel Thomas were solid and both players made some superb hits to disrupt the visitors' patterns. Eventually however, pressure told and Barry were awarded a kickable penalty which was duly added to the score.

The huge defensive effort of the first half was begining to take its toll on the home side and with the visitors piling on the pressure, they added five further tries before the final whistle.

Llantwit did have a golden try-scoring opportunity towards the end of the game when Thomas broke through the defence to create a one on one with the Barry fullback.

With acres of space to run in to he decided to take route one and try to smash the last defender out of the way; however the fullback held his ground and managed to halt the rampaging Thomas.

While disappointed with the final 52-3 scoreline, the team did show glimpses of what they are capable of. There are certainly plenty of positives to take from the performance and the promise of much better to come as the team beds in to youth rugby.

TJ

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Double triumph for St Andrew's Major juniors

THERE seems to be no stopping the talented juniors at St Andrew's Major Golf Club this season, because once again three members of the junior 'Elite' squad took top honours recently when the club held the combined Bard's Bowl and Stewards' Cup over the weekend of August 30-31.

Jordan Taylor, the 16-year-old junior captain, carded a 74 gross playing off a handicap of 6, with Iestyn James (15) finishing third with a gross 78.

They have represented the club in most of the men's first team this season and are both seen as future club champions. The Bard's Bowl was won by Dan Thomas (13), whose gross 86 could have been far better as his card included both a 9 and 8.

Dan has already won the 'Champion of Champions' at the club this season and has won over many admirers amongst the adults with his impressive golf game.

The regular coaching sessions organised by Steve Thomas and the coaching from golf professional John Hastings have given St Andrew's Golf Club a talented crop of junior members who are a credit to themselves and the club.

JJH

Award for local club

PENARTH Karate Jutsu Kai have worked hard to become inclusive, and this is echoed by the club achieving the Insport Bronze Award.

Lee Costa would like to express its gratitude to Disability Sport Wales and Sport Wales for giving the opportunity to achieve this award. Further information on special needs classes, as well as present existing beginners classes at our full time dojo (Cogan Leisure Centre, Penarth), can be found on the website www.karate-jutsu.org or via Sensei Lee Costa on 07974 972 479. **LC**

Vale Resort's Tenovus 'Legends Golf Day'

TENOVUS are delighted to announce the launch of the inaugural Legends Golf Day, taking place at the luxury four star Vale Resort on Thursday, September 18.

The Tenovus Legends Golf Day will be hosted by Wales and Lions rugby legend Dafydd James, who has challenged fellow sporting stars to join him in what promises to be a competitive event!

Dafydd said; "I'm delighted to be hosting an event like this and can't wait to get out on the course with our team of legends and Tenovus supporters. I'm looking forward to seeing what our players can deliver on the course, and raising lots of money for such a brilliant charity."

The event takes in 18 holes on one of the longest inland courses in the UK and is sure to be a sell-out spectacular. Each team will consist of three entrants, who will be joined by their very own sporting legend! Entry costs £400 per team.

The day commences with registration at 8am, a shotgun start at 9am and a supper and prize giving from 3.30pm.

This exciting event will raise vital money towards funding Tenovus's cancer support services which include counselling, for anyone affected by cancer. Counselling can be particularly important for men, who may find it hard to talk things through with family or friends.

David Payne from Pontyclun was diagnosed with Glioblastoma Multiforma Level 4, an aggressive incurable brain tumour back in October 2010.

He said: "After a terminal diagnosis, having my Tenovus counsellor to talk to made all the difference, I found the sessions emotional rewarding and energising. The ability of the counsellor to help you cope with the illness was truly inspiring.

"I have been the main source of income for the family; I managed a National Company, run my own business and was the one everyone relied on.

"Suddenly I couldn't drive, lost my left periphery vision, my confidence sapped away I became dependent on others.

"As a husband father and son I made every effort to protect my love one's from the emotions that surrounds a diagnosis of this type but I needed someone to lean on who do you turn to?

"That's when Tenovus entered my life – the counselling afforded me has been an incredible help. I feel at peace and back in control. I describe Tenovus it as my rubber ring that kept me afloat, when I felt I was drowning."

For more information or to book your place please contact us on 029 2076 8850 or email us at events@tenovus.org.uk.

On and off the turf with BRIAN LEE

BRIDGEND jockey Rhys Flint was down to ride Jim Best's *St Helena* in the 32Red Casino Handicap Hurdle at Southwell last week while the legendary A P McCoy was supposed to have ridden the horse's stable companion *Into The Wind*.

However, the 19-time champion jockey switched to *St Helena* after his mount was declared a non-runner on account of the ground and the gambled on mare duly obliged.

A British Horse Authority statement read: "Before racing, the stewards interviewed Jim Best about the withdrawal of *Into The Wind* and the change of jockey. Following the race, the stewards held an inquiry into the apparent improvement in form of *St Helena*. The findings will be forwarded to our Integrity and Regulatory teams."

DAVID'S GERMAN WIN

David Probert, who hails from Bargoed, won Germany's top mile race the Oettingen-Rennen at Baden Baden on *Here Comes When*, which is trained by Andrew Balding.

This is the second time in three years Probert and Baldwin have been successful in this race and Probert said: "I knew I was going to win when we turned into the straight. He loves soft ground and was going so easily throughout."'

JORDAN STANDS OUT

Another Bargoed jockey who is making a name for himself is Jordan Williams, who just days after riding his first winner over-the-sticks on his grandfather Bernard Llewellyn's *Going Nowhere Fast* at Stratford notched up his first winner on the flat at Haydock last Wednesday when scoring on his grandfather's *Gift Of Silence* in the BetFred Please Donate On Your Way Out Handicap over a mile-and-a-half.

Jordan, 16, is a graduate of the pony racing circuit and has won around 50 pony races at point-to-point race tracks up and down the country. His mother Beth Williams was a successful amateur rider.

Barrivale bridge results

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club, WBU sims heat, for September 2:

First, Peter Millar and Mark Roderick, 65.10 per cent; second, Simon and Debbie Richards, 56.25 per cent; third, Mike Close and Kay Dyer, 54.69 per cent.

Peter Millar and Mark Roderick also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

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Opening day defeat for Cowbridge first team

LAST Saturday Cowbridge 1st XV travelled to Barry, who are celebrating their 125th year.

The weather was glorious, too hot for rugby but Barry scored first with a penalty and then on 20 minutes their outside half got the first of his tries. Cowbridge hit back with a line out knock down by Dan Jay to No 8 Ryan Hall to dummy his way over for an unconverted try.

Almost immediately Barry scored from a mix up and their pacy No 7 pounced on the ball to score a converted try. David Griffiths, after a knock on the leg, was replaced on the wing by Tom Johnson. Hooker Rhys Price, after a solid first half, swapped with Connor Boys, and the score was a creditable 17-5 at halftime.

In the opening five minutes of the second half great tackles from full back Tom Harrison and wing Josh Lewis stopped near certain tries. But in an eight minute burst both the No 10 and 7 scored again. Dai Breed replaced debutant Ben Worrell in the front row.

Again Cowbridge came back; some lovely footwork by centre Johnny Grey saw the ball come out to Hall, who burst 20 metres upfield and then offloaded to the supporting Tom Johnson for an excellent converted try. Those same two players caused problem as the No 7 and 10 scored again, and with five minutes to go their tighthead prop got on the scoresheet.

But again Cowbridge came back; following good recovery work by John Lewis, the ball was slipped to Grey, then on to Dai Breed and finally to Harrison for a try under the posts and a second conversion for Luke Boys, for a final score of 48-19.

Barry played well and had two players who stood out but Cowbridge defended well and scored three very good tries. The scrum and lineout looked quite solid, as new boys Grey in the centre and prop Worrell showed up well and Harrison looked good at full back.

That youth had an excellent win away at Rhiwbina. The score was 0-53 with the scorers being Will Haines, Harri Thomas, Lloyd Elms, Cameron Gibson, Matt Lock, Dan Holder and Ben Jones, with two tries for Tom Hayward; Alex Guard converted four.

This Saturday the 1st XV are at home to Llandaff, kick off 2.30pm. The youth are also at home taking on Caldicott in the Welsh Cup. All support would be very welcome.

RV/RK

Pupil Matt shines on the Baltic seas!

MATT VINEY (16) from Peterston Super Ely, who attends Cowbridge Comprehensive School, and sails at Cardiff Bay Yacht Club, has recently returned with a very credible seventh from the Eurosaf European Sailing Championships in Poland. Matt was selected as part of a British sailing team attending the event from August 18/23, in Gdynia on the Baltic Sea.

Matt in action.

Matt has been sailing since he was eight years old and has sailed at GBR national level in singlehanded junior classes. He teamed up with long-term friend Dan Atherton from Cowes on the Isle of Wight last year to sail a 420 which is a two handed youth boat (age 15-18).

They progressed well and were selected for GBR Transitional Squad in November 2013 and then due to their achievements at national events were selected for both the GBR youth squad in May 2014 and the GBR team to attend the Europeans in Poland.

The British 420 team at the Europeans comprised four girls and four boys. After a hard week of sailing in often windy and challenging conditions, Matt and Dan qualified as one of the top crews for the final medal race.

They were leading the race only to be disqualified for being just over the line at the start and were finally placed seventh overall. The event was won by British pair Daniel Whitley and James Clemenston who Matt and Dan hope to emulate next year.

Matt said "I have really enjoyed visiting Poland and sailing against some of the best sailors in Europe. We were gutted to be disqualified in the final race but hope to win next year."

After a busy summer which also took in events in Belgium, France, north Wales and the British 420 National Championships at Hayling Island, where they were placed an excellent 12th, Matt and Dan are now focused on re-selection for the GBR youth squad over the coming winter and eventually hope to sail in the 470 Olympic class.

Matt's sister Jemma has also been very successful in junior single handed sailing and has previously been selected for the European championships in an Optimist. She has teamed up with Tilly Matthews from Barry in a 420 and also hopes to be selected for the GBR youth squad.

THE COWBRIDGE RFC JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND-UP

COWBRIDGE under-16s' opening fixture of the season against Talywain was unfortunately restricted to one half due to what appeared to be a serious injury to skipper James Holder.

Fortunately, after medical attention and a knee dislocation reset, James will hopefully be fit to play again in the next month or two.

The home side have never beaten Talywain but, despite only limited training prior to the start of the season, Cowbridge played outstanding rugby throughout the half.

Their smaller but quicker forwards took the game to their opponents and matched them at every scrum, lineout, ruck and maul and provided sufficient possession for their back line to cause panic in the Talywain ranks.

It came as no surprise when Cowbridge scored the first try, when the ball sped quickly along the back line to wing Seán Davies, who eluded a number of tackles to score an excellent try from 40 yards out. Cai Evans converted for a seven point lead.

Despite brave tackling from the home side, with Duncan Ace, Paddy Doyle, and Cai Evans outstanding, Talywain now began to utilise their superior weight up front and after a number of driving mauls scored a try that was converted to bring the sides level.

With five minutes of the half remaining Cowbridge finally began to retake control, forcing the visitors to concede a penalty which was converted by outside half Cai Evans for the home side to retake the lead and end the half.

In the backs centre Dan Bunney, centre Joe Nott and scrum half Osian John were constant threats to the Talywaun defence, while in the forwards James Holder, Otto Guwy and Owain Jenkins stuck to their task manfully. New recruit Kyle May-Rees had an excellent debut at full back and special mention should be made to the front row of Harry Hopkins, Will Couzens and Josh Evans who somehow were able to match their much heavier opponents.

AD

Cowbridge under-14s got their new season off to a great start with a comprehensive 48-10 victory away to Abercwmboi.

With a couple of new faces in the team there were some early teething problems, but overall the coaches were delighted with the boys first run out of the new season.

During the first five minutes Cowbridge dominated play, but Abercwmboi defended extremely well to stop Cowbridge opening the scoring.

However, it was not long before consistent pressure from Cowbridge allowed Rowan Allin, the Cowbridge outside centre, to score in the corner. Ioan Williams made a great conversion.

As with all first games of the season, the boys made some elementary mistakes and missed a number of overlaps to keep the scoreboard moving. The game's second try came from a great run from Barty Norton, the powerful Cowbridge prop. Norton missed last season and it's great to see him back, he made a huge difference to the team - welcome back Barty.

Following Norton's run, I.Williams, the nippy Cowbridge scrum half, made a break down the blind side and just before he got tackled Williams managed to offload to Ben Jones, the Cowbridge open side flanker, who like all good 7s was on hand to gather the popped pass and fall over the line to score.

Straight from the resulting kick off Ruben Williams, the Cowbridge number 8, gathered the ball, burst through a couple of tackles to run the full length of the pitch to score the game's third try.

Cowbridge were now in their full stride, and with regained confidence the team put some great phases of rugby together. With the Abercwmboi defence beginning to struggle, Dan O'Sullivan got on the scoresheet, following some simple passing by the backs and a good final sidestep; I.Williams converted.

With the game nearing halftime Abercwmboi put some good phases of rugby together themselves, using their larger pack to good affect. However, a brave tackle by another Cowbridge returnee, Barny Langton-Cryer, allowed Iestyn Fenn to turn the ball over and put R.Williams in for his second try of the game. Halftime score Abercwmboi 0, Cowbridge 31.

Cowbridge began the second half as they ended the first, with some excellent running and superb pop passes off the floor. These passes when executed as effectively as Cowbridge were doing, are extremely hard to defend against.

With the Abercwmboi defence struggling to cope, Jack Dixon went over in the corner unopposed after some simple passing across the back line put him in the clear.

A great response from a spirited Abercwmboi resulted in a well deserved try of their own for their powerful second row. Cowbridge responded immediately and following a couple of tap penalties Iwan Pryce-Thomas scored in the far corner, to take Cowbridge past the 40 point mark.

With the Cowbridge coaches ringing the changes, once again, Abercwmboi responded with a try of their own. From an Abercwmboi clearing kick, their right winger found himself clear of the Cowbridge defence with half the pitch to go.

The Cowbridge defence turned and made chase, Jack Dixon recovered and pulled off an incredible try saving tackle. After all the great tries the team had scored during the game, the loudest cheer from the crowd came when Dixon managed to catch the flying winger just short of the Cowbridge line.

With more Cowbridge defence arriving, Cowbridge managed to turn the ball over and counter attacked from their own line. Led by O'Sullivan, Cowbridge made some great passing combinations, only to lose the ball just short of the Abercwmboi line.

The game's final try came from another Cowbridge counter attack. This time with plenty of support O'Sullivan popped the try scoring pass to Jack Little, the Cowbridge prop who covers the ground like an extra back row forward. I.Williams converted for a final score of 48-10 to Cowbridge.

A great start to the season, well done to all the boys; welcome to the new members of the team, and welcome back to the boys returning from last season.

GJ

Llantwit Major was Cowbridge under-9s destination for their first match of the season.

Cowbridge started brightly in the first game with Harry New racing into the corner to open the scoring. Llantwit struck back but soon after Sam Sheppard weaved his way deep into Llantwit territory with Osian Bruce on hand to add the finishing touch.

The second half started with a barnstorming run and offload by Ioan Phillips to Sam Jackson who stretched his way over to score. Llantwit caught Cowbridge napping at the restart, but a powerful burst and try by Henry Whitehouse increased the Cowbridge lead. Llantwit fought back once more but Cowbridge closed the game out with some very neat finishing by Ben Stephenson. Final score 5-3 to Cowbridge.

Cowbridge conceded early in the first half of game 2, but then came three unanswered tries. Harry New broke through the defence and Will Brennan was on hand to offload to Sam Sheppard to open his account for the season.

Harry then added a brace of his own, firstly slicing his way past to score in the corner and then taking an exquisite pass from Jacob Robson to race in up the line.

Cowbridge hit top gear in the second half with Ben Stephenson bringing up his hat trick for the day, with two razor sharp finishes. Clever play from Will Martin and Henry Pugh set up James Collingridge for a thunderous burst through midfield who added to the Cowbridge tally.

Llantwit added scores of their own, but a literally bulldozing run and try from Sam Jackson extended the lead. Ioan Phillips then set up the final score of the day with a crashing tackle, allowing Luc Martin to sprint in from inside his own half. Notable mention also to James Lord for some excellent tackling. Final score 8-3 to Cowbridge.

PS

Finals weekend sees great bowls on show!

THE sun shone and we had a fantastic weekend of bowling for the Cowbridge bowls club finals competitions.

On Saturday morning, in the Mixed Pairs final, Diane Purnell and Steve Dickens won well against Pat Davey and Alan Wallace; then, in the afternoon, both Diane and Alan had to play again, this time in the Ladies and Mens Pairs.

In the Ladies Pairs, Diane and Sylvia Hole, playing against Sandra Collin and Sue Flower, won 22-13. In the Mens Pairs, Alan and Bryan Hole, playing against Ron Frayling and John Trott, won 23-14. These two matches were unique because they had a husband and wife, Sylvia and Bryan Hole, both playing in the winning pairs. Well done to them!

On Sunday, we played all our singles finals. In the Millenium Plate final, Alan Wallace, in his third final of the weekend, playing against Lynda Wilson, won 21-12. In the 2 woods final, Roger Barwick, playing against Dennis Snelling, won 22-13.

In the afternoon the two singles club championship finals were played, and what nailbiting matches they were for the watching supporters, going right to the end! In the ladies final, Lin Wallace, one of the club's newer bowlers, played against Diane Purnell, the current ladies club champion, and with both ladies playing really well, Lin won the game by 21 shots to 18 - well done Lin!

The men's championship final was also a very close game. Roger Barwick, having already won the 2 wood competition, played against Charles Sanders. After a keenly fought game which lasted right to the end, Roger won 21-20 - well done Roger!

Captain Norman Wilkinson and club champion Roger Barwick have been invited by Des Bannister, the president of the South Vale District Bowling Association, to play for his team in his president's match at Barry Romily, to take place on Monday.

Next weekend the ladies will play against the men in a bid to win the Barwick Cup. This is an annual match which the ladies have, so far, never won, but watch out the men, as this year they are very determined to beat you!

NJW